Schedules for all 326 teams

HIDDYUP AHOMA STATE

pushes for another **Final Four**

A Knight's tale at TEXAS TECH

More boom than bust at OKLAHOMA

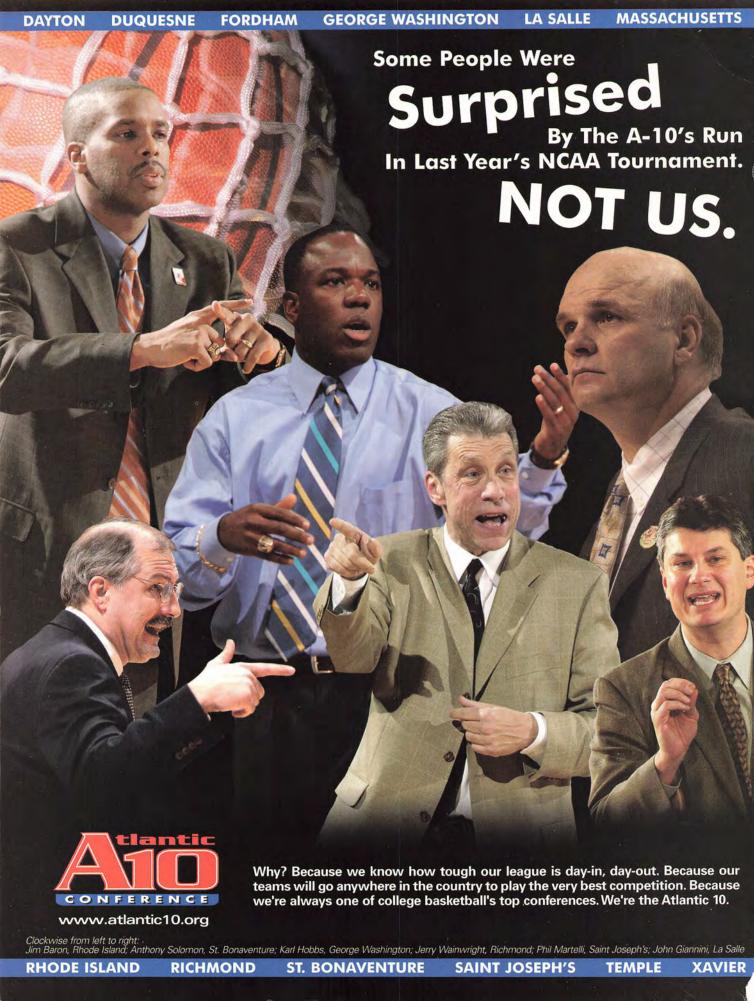






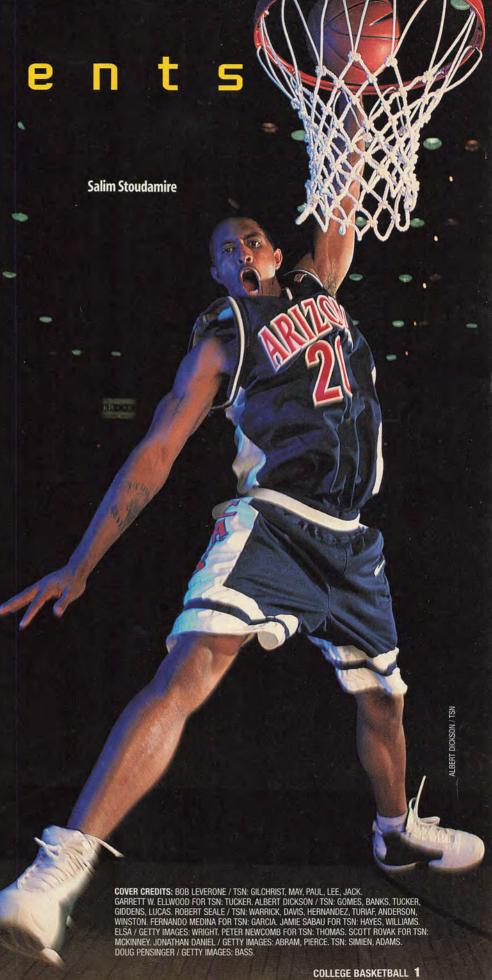
JOHN LUCAS OKLAHOMA STATE







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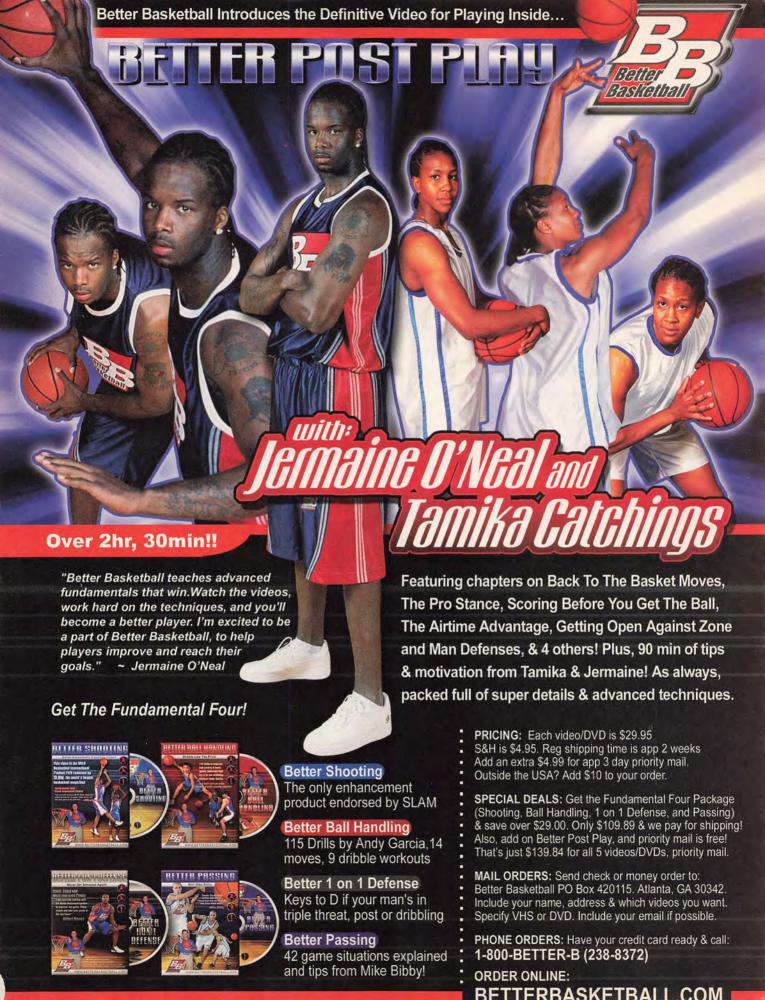
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By Mike DeCourcy

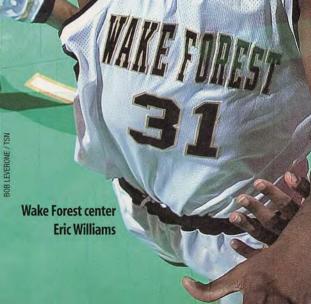
h, sure, surviving the NCAA
Tournament will be tough. The attempt to secure six victories in less than 20 days—nearly all against elite competition and each containing the threat of instant doom—represents one of
American sport's greatest challenges. But after Wake Forest endures this Atlantic Coast Conference regular season and the combustible weekend of competition in the ACC tournament, the Final Four will seem like a few hours reclining on Aruba's white sands.

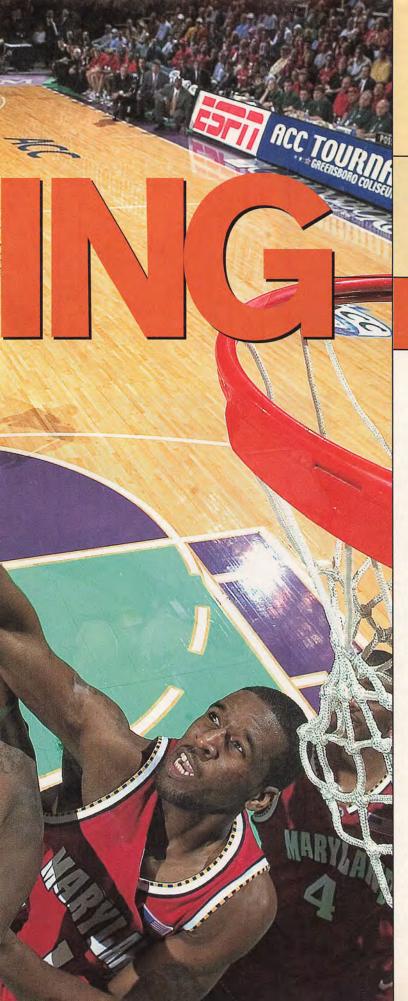
The Demon Deacons are this year's No. 1 team in the

Sporting News College Basketball yearbook. That means our staff believes Wake Forest is the team most likely to walk away from the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis next April with a cheesy wooden trophy and the envy of 325 other teams. But it might not mean the Deacons will stand as the No. 1 team in the rankings when the 2005 tournament begins—or even that they will spend a lot of time in that position in the course of the year.

Wake has the players and system to be the nation's best team. The Deacons have size and skill in the frontcourt, a deep, talented backcourt and the wonderful Chris Paul at point guard to make it all work right. But they must spend the greater part of their season engaged in some of the most vicious conference combat of recent years. Six ACC members are ranked among our top 25 teams. Four are in our top 10. Even in the days of conference expansion, it has been 10 years

Georgia Tech forward Isma'il Muhammad





THENATION 2004-05

since we ranked six from one league in the preseason top 25.

Simply to get to the close of the regular-season ACC race, the Deacons will have to play two games against Georgia Tech (No. 6), two against Duke (No. 8), two against N.C. State (No. 22) and one each against North Carolina (No. 3) and Maryland (No. 15).

"There are no layups in our league," Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser says. "Almost every conference has some teams that, for whatever reason, have some sickness. Everybody in our league is committed to trying to win a national championship. I'm not sure how many leagues have every school making that kind of commitment.

"I said last year that I thought a really good team would finish seventh in our league. This year it's strong enough that a real good team might finish eighth. It's the Bataan Death March through your conference schedule."

It could have been worse, you know. Had the ACC not expanded to 11 teams for this season, with Boston College to come next fall, Miami and Virginia Tech would have stayed back in the Big East, and the Deacons would have been facing one more game each against Maryland and North Carolina.

That's how it was in the old ACC. Everybody played everybody twice, home and away. The road trips were short by college athletic standards, many traversed by bus, but they featured their own obstacles. Think it's not far from Raleigh to Chapel Hill? Step inside the Deandome wearing bright red on game night. The Hurricanes and Hokies might become ACC powers in time, but right now they are a healthy alternative to another dose of Terps and Heels.

That loss of intimacy might prevent this ACC season from being as routinely brutal as the Big East in 1991 (seven of nine members reached the NCAAs, and one went to the NIT) or the Big Ten in 1999 (seven of 11 made the tournament, and two reached the Final Four). But this ACC could have more great teams. Since 1985, the first year of the 64-team bracket, no league has placed more than four teams in the Sweet 16. This league could be the first.

The main reason the ACC will be great, though, is this Wake Forest team.

Good thing the Deacons don't have to play themselves.

What were we thinking?

If you'd like a little dose of that Being John Malkovich experience, step inside our heads and understand some oddities from our preseason rankings and all-star teams.

How can Florida be 25th? Some might wonder why the Gators are ranked at all. Given the individual ability and some big wins last season, others will question why they're not higher. That's precisely why they landed where they did. We've been burned before by teams we knew were, shall we say, unreliable. Florida is one, having been ranked No. 10 in last season's yearbook. Putting them on the edge of the rankings acknowledges their talent without investing a whole lot of faith in it.

Why are no Blue Devils on the All-ACC first team? Have you seen that team? Any of those players could be a first-team All-American. J.J. Redick is great at what he does, but he is not as versatile as Julius Hodge or as productive as Rashad McCants. Devils center Shelden

Williams still has some penance to do for retreating from Emeka Okafor's challenge in the Final Four.

Why is Sean May the No. 1 center but not on either All-American team? He has the ability to become a national star, but the question remains whether his North Carolina teammates can adjust to feature

> him in the attack. Last season, May took 99 fewer shots than McCants.

Isn't Connecticut low for a reigning champion? The past two champs averaged a No. 6 seed, so there could be justification for dropping the Huskies lower. They have tremendous talent, but they'll be coping with the various distractions of defending their title and are extremely young.

How could Ryan Gomes be a first-team All-American last year, but not now? Providence had a better team around Gomes before, so he will face more and tougher defensive attention. It's unlikely the Friars will be as successful, which is a factor. And players like Louisville's Francisco Garcia are in position to make great improvements.



Last call for conference brawls?

The Big East has been around since 1979 and produced five national championship teams. Conference USA was born less than a decade ago, in 1995, and has been good for one Final Four squad. So even though each league became known for a bruising, physical style of play, the sense of loss is not equal as these two leagues prepare for one last season.

Each will be back next season in such a radically altered form they'll bear only the slightest resemblance to what we have come to know. The names and a few faces will be all that does not change.

With the Big East, it's about leaving behind a remarkably rich history that might be disconnected from its future. With Conference USA, it's about unrealized potential.

Conference USA misspent its youth concentrating on a football league that never became a national factor. The basketball league has been so unstable only Cincinnati still has the same coach as in the first season, and 33 men have coached at the original 12 schools. Until Marguette broke through to the 2003 Final Four and the 2004 season saw six members earn bids, Conference USA had been an NCAA Tournament flop, with a sub-.500 record and an average of three bids per year.

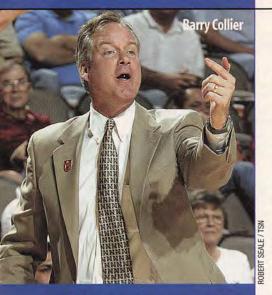
Since its formation, the Big East has won five national titles and sent seven different members to the Final Four. In that time, only the ACC won more titles. Only the Big Ten had the same variety of Final Four squads. The Big East was home to Patrick Ewing, Chris Mullin, Richard Hamilton, Allen Iverson and Carmelo Anthony. Two of its coaches are in the Basketball Hall of Fame (Lou Carnesecca and John Thompson) and two more eventually will get there (Jim Boeheim and Jim Calhoun).

Conference USA just started getting it right as it was preparing to dismantle itself. Its six teams in last season's NCAA tourney tied the ACC and SEC for the most entries from a conference.

When the 2005-06 season opens, five current members of Conference USA will be wearing Big East patches on their uniforms: Cincinnati, Louisville, Marquette, DePaul and South Florida. Another Big East school, Boston College, will defect to the ACC. C-USA will add six new members-SMU, Marshall, Rice, Central Florida, Tulsa, UTEP-four of which have not won an NCAA Tournament game since 1988.

College basketball will look dramatically different next fall-and not necessarily better. Enjoy this version while it lasts.





Is it now or never?

If building a program takes four to five years, these folks should be getting there by now:

VILLANOVA. Coach Jay Wright has four junior starters from the splashy recruiting class he gathered in the summer of 2001. The Wildcats lost considerable ground when some players were involved in a phone card scandal, but the team has the players in place to begin moving forward. One important key will be tuning up guard Randy Foye's shot selection. He can't take more than 400 shots if he's hitting 38.7 percent.

MICHIGAN. Entering his fourth season, Tommy Amaker has yet to get the Wolverines to the NCAAs but does own an NIT title. There has been plenty of recruiting success, but the Wolverines need junior Daniel Horton to function more like a point guard. He needs it, too. He's not going to make the NBA hitting 36.6 percent from the floor and averaging only 3.6 assists. He's got to be better at something.

TENNESSEE. Working through the clutter of Jerry Green's program has taken Buzz Peterson some time since he arrived in 2001, and the Vols have spent all of it outside the NCAA Tournament. They struggle to score, shoot and defend. Compared to other programs in the SEC, it appears Tennessee might not have good enough players.

NEBRASKA. This is year No. 5 for Barry Collier, whose Huskers made a huge jump to 18 victories last season—even as some folks tried to make a public play to get him dumped. The concern is that Nebraska lost its top two scorers. At this point in the program's development, with some enemies already forged, Collier no doubt would prefer to be returning a complete collection of veterans.

Dude, you've got issues

Contending for a championship invariably requires solving problems. How do you make Ben Gordon more aggressive? How can you protect Emeka Okafor's back? Does the UConn contingent have enough Final Four tickets to accommodate all the underrated guys Jim Calhoun has turned into pros?

Stuff like that.

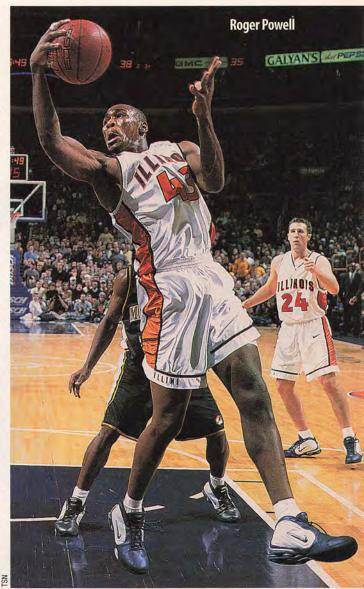
Several top teams still have matters to address:

Wake Forest's defense. The Demon Deacons will not win the NCAA title defending as they did last season, when they ranked last in the ACC one year after ranking 11th in the nation in field goal defense. The first priority will be to convince Chris Paul to guard the ball more forcefully. Opponents have been getting it inside too easily, which frequently leads center Eric Williams into foul trouble. If the Deacons can use Jamaal Levy for more minutes at small forward, his length will be more of an issue than it is with power players.

Illinois' inside game. Yes, of course—what inside game? The Illini attempted 56 fewer free throws than their opponents—and the differential was most pronounced in Big Ten games, though Illinois won more than 80 percent of its league contests. There appears to be no easy solution. Big man James Augustine is more comfortable facing the basket. At 6-6, Roger Powell has a touch of post scoring in his game, but it's not going to matter as long as he's operating mostly against power forwards.

Charlie Villanueva's role. His rookie-vear rebounding and defense were so lacking that UConn barely could use him against tough opponents. Villanueva wants to be a small forward, though he won't be able to defend quicker players. Calhoun loves the thought of what Villanueva might do on the perimeter to power forwards attempting to defend him, but he needs to see progress at the other end.

Florida's grit. If you have a really strong memory (or an extensive collection of TSN products), you might be aware that this same subject was addressed in last year's Sporting News College Basketball preview yearbook. Since then, it has gotten worse. Rebounding declined, the Gators shot fewer free throws than opponents and they were under .500 on the road. The Gators' final three losses were by an average of 17 points. And yet Florida tallied nine wins against NCAA teams. There's still hope.



A hand full of wild cards

Some of the most important players this season won't be the biggest stars. These players can wreck or reinforce their team's chances:

SEAN DOCKERY, G, DUKE. Dockery's primary duty his first two seasons was as a part-time defensive stopper. There are plenty of great ACC point guards to stop now that Dockery has got a full-time job, replacing Chris Duhon. But more important will be operating the attack and showing he can be at least an offensive threat. He shot only 41.1 percent from the field and 12.0 percent on 3s last season. If defenders can drop off Dockery to double-team the Devils' wings, the offense might stagnate.

SALIM STOUDAMIRE, G, ARIZONA.

Stoudamire was problematic enough last season that coach Lute Olson benched him for a game in late February. He is an outrageously dynamic offensive player, which he showed with five games of 25 or more points as a junior. In the Wildcats' defeats, though, he shot 36.7 percent from the floor. Part of Stoudamire's job as a senior will be making point guard Mustafa Shakur more comfortable.

JOHN DeGROAT, F, PITTSBURGH. He hasn't yet played a Division I game, but the Panthers need somebody to replace wings Jaron Brown and Julius Page. With two years of junior college experience, DeGroat is the most obvious candidate. If he doesn't adjust well, Pitt has several other players it can try. But it would be easier if the first choice worked out well.

TACK MINOR, G, LSU. Coach John Brady says Minor needs to function more like a true point. Minor's shoot-first approach in high school chased away some potential college suitors, and his style of play went unchanged last year. He played 449 minutes and passed for only 49 assists. He tried 3.6 shots for every one assist, though Minor hit only 36.2 percent. Wake Forest's Chris Paul hit 49.6 percent from the field but took only 1.5 shots for every assist he dished out.

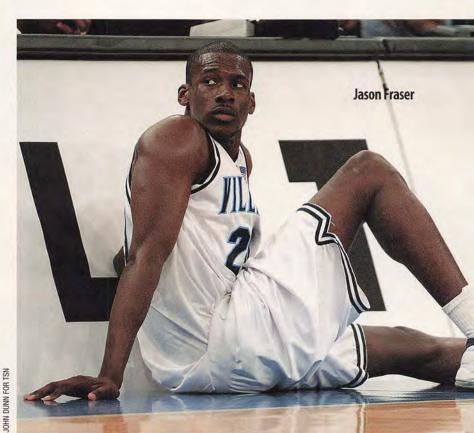
IAN CROSSWHITE, F, OREGON.

Crosswhite had a nice, efficient junior season from an offensive standpoint. But the Ducks can't continue allowing opponents to dash through the key like it's a track meet. Crosswhite has to be more of a physical presence on defense and should do better than 5.0 rebounds a game. With Luke Jackson gone, Oregon needs someone—some men, that is—to replace his varied production.

Building a mystery

There are some things in every sport that are difficult to explain. These are but a few of college basketball's current peculiarities:

- Why doesn't Temple fix its schedule? The Owls have not been to the NCAAs since 2001, though they might have been good enough once or twice. The schedules have been too tough for the team to gain confidence or build a sufficiently attractive record. Temple is 12-22 in nonleague regular season games the past three years, playing all but four games against major conference opponents This year is much the same, with games against three ACC powers (Wake Forest, Duke, Maryland).
- What happened to Vytas Danelius? With averages of 12.3 points and 8.3 rebounds as a sophomore, Danelius looked as though he'd become a star for Wake Forest. But injuries happen. He was bothered throughout last preseason with various ailments and missed six games with a high ankle sprain. He lost confidence and saw his minutes drop as the Deacons moved on without him. The good news? He still was good enough late to contribute 23 points against Maryland and a 10-point, 8-rebound effort at Virginia. He had an excellent offseason, and Wake coaches trust he will be healthy again and able to regain the power forward position.
- Why can't Cincinnati win in the NCAA Tournament? The Bearcats have been seeded in the top four of their region six times since 1997. Each time, they failed to advance to the Sweet 16. There have been a variety of reasons for this program's tournament troubles: difficult matchups, a lucky shot, Kenyon Martin's injury. But the consistent theme has been the inability to generate baskets in the halfcourt offense. Might new point guard Jihad Muhammad loosen up the attack?
- Will we ever see the real Jason Fraser? Because of injuries, suspension and foul trouble, Fraser has yet to average 25 minutes a game as Villanova's center. Fraser never was (nor will he ever be) a great offensive player. But he can be a dominant rebounder and make a huge difference if he's smarter about when to pursue shot blocks. He played a combined 29 minutes and had nearly as many fouls (9) as rebounds (10) in the Wildcats' first two NIT games; in their last, he fouled twice and grabbed 13 rebounds in 32 minutes. Big difference.



Action of the same



There is an 'O' in Oklahoma State

To ascertain how deeply ingrained the notion of Eddie Sutton as a defensive coach has become, I tried a little trick that wasn't available way back when he started in the game. I Googled him. A search requesting "Eddie Sutton" and "defense" turned up 2,490 mentions. "Eddie Sutton" and "offense" trailed at 1,530.

But were Sutton only a defensive genius, his Oklahoma State Cowboys would not have concluded last season in the Final Four. Coaches always are looking for tricks or trends or strategies they can borrow from successful teams the prior season. How's this for a revolutionary concept they can all try in 2005: Make some baskets.

Defense is important, but the teams that win big generate big scoring numbers. Each of the 2004 Final Four teams ranked among the NCAA's top 25 scoring teams at the close of the regular season. However, in their respective leagues, Oklahoma State and Duke were middle-of-the-pack defensively. The Cowboys fell from first in field-goal defense in 2002-03 to fifth in 2003-04, yet climbed from fourth place in the standings to league champion.

Sutton demonstrated his embrace of scoring's relative importance by making John Lucas his starting point guard. Lucas struggles to defend opposing point guards but is an offensive force, and that became the most important difference in the Cowboys' spectacular season. After shooting just 44.9 percent from the field before Lucas arrived, they hit 51.3 percent in his first season, which was his second in Division I.

Perhaps because scoring points is the "fun" part of this game, many coaches feel it necessary to place greater emphasis on defense. Sort of like a parent making sure the kid's eating lima beans before moving on to the banana cream pie. That's one reason so many offenses are dysfunctional and so many players don't understand that sharing the ball doesn't mean they'll never get to shoot it.

Ultimately, the object of the game is to put the ball through the rim, not to break the other guy's legs as he tries.

National honor roll

BEST SHOOTER: J.J. REDICK, G, DUKE.

Although many exceeded Redick's 3-point marksmanship of 39.5 percent last season, his shooting was a bigger part of his team's attack, and he played in bigger games than most. Redick is too prone to slumps and needs to become better at countering defenders who pressure him. But few strike the same degree of fear in opponents.

BEST DEFENDER: JOEY GRAHAM, G/F, OKLAHOMA STATE.

Graham's trophy case includes Saint Joseph's wing Pat Carroll (3-of-11), Memphis' Sean Banks (3-of-11) and three dismissals of Texas' Brandon Mouton (a combined 10-of-33). Graham is physical, quick and keeps opponents from their favored spots. And what good is a stop if you don't get the ball? Graham averages 3.5 defensive rebounds.

BEST PLAYMAKER: CHRIS PAUL, G, WAKE FOREST.

No player does a better job balancing the needs of his teammates against game situations. Paul understands basketball, and he understands people. He also creates shots for himself, making them as often as not. That's part of this title, as well.

BEST PASSER: RAYMOND FELTON, G, NORTH CAROLINA.

The difference between Felton and other point guards is his ability to hit a moving target.

BEST DUNKER: ISMA'IL MUHAMMAD, F, GEORGIA TECH.

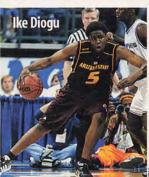
Muhammad gets points for technical merit and degree of difficulty. The Jackets wouldn't have won the NCAA title even if he'd had two good wheels in San Antonio. But it would have been a better show.

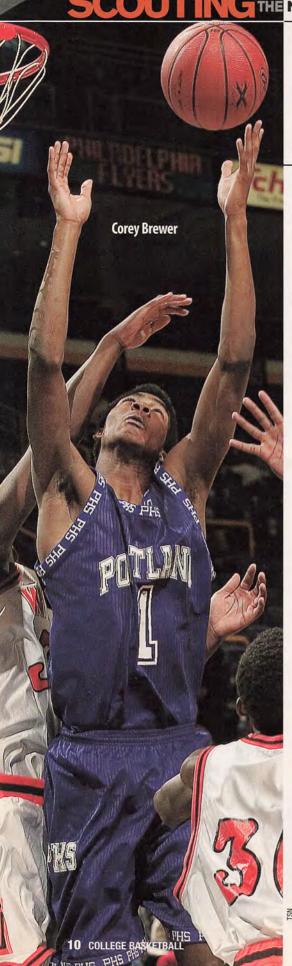
BEST POST MOVES: IKE DIOGU, F, ARIZONA STATE.

Let the rest of the world play with their silly trapezoid lane. We still want guys to be able to score inside with power, strength and finesse.









St. Louis STOCK EXCHANGE

BUY

FLORIDA. All the Gators have to do to raise their performance from last season is get to double-digit wins in the SEC and advance one round in the NCAA Tournament.

That's going to happen. This team has too many offensive weapons, and the defense will improve with the addition of freshman Corey Brewer. The early-season schedule, with no trips outside the state until two weeks into January, will facilitate a climb back up the polls, as well.

CISCO. No, not Cisco Systems. Francisco Garcia, Louisville's junior wing. Given the number of veteran All-Americans returning to college basketball, it might be convenient to ignore the possibility that some new stars will emerge. It also would be a mistake. Garcia will be among the nation's best.

MIZZOU. Purged of last year's senior class, the Tigers can climb back toward the NCAAs behind athletic wings Jason Conley and Jimmy McKinney and power forward Linas Kleiza. It'll be nice if Jason Horton is more of a pure point than his brother, Daniel. But the Tigers could get by if he just don't turn over the ball.

BIG TEN. The league was a mess last season, and the loss of its best player—Wisconsin point guard Devin Harris—does not portend a revival. But the Big Ten will not be stuck on three NCAA bids again.



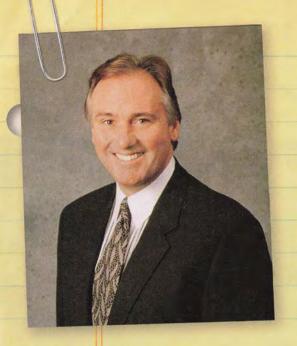
SELL

STANFORD. This is not to say Stanford is bound for disaster. But coming off a season that was just short of perfect, with the losses of an All-American-level player (Josh Childress) and an elite coach (Mike Montgomery), the Cardinal is bound to take a dip. Better to get out now.



THE ATLANTIC 10. George Washington and Xavier can keep the A-10 from the ignominy of 2002, when the league had one NCAA Tournament bid. But being limited to the league tournament winner is conceivable. The home of the past two Oscar Robertson Trophy winners (David West and Jameer Nelson), this league suddenly is low on marquee players.

MID-MAJOR BIDS. As the major conferences buy more home non-league games and play fewer conference games amongst themselves, it's going to be harder for successful midmajor teams to earn at-large NCAA invitations. There was just one last year, Southern Illinois, and no team from outside a top 10 conference made the Sweet 16. It won't get much worse than that, but don't expect it to get better.



SCOUTING REPORT

Name: Tim Brando
Position: Sporting News Radio Host
Experience: CBS Sports Studio
Host & Play-by-Play Announcer
Height: 6'3" (give or take)
Weight: Doesn't matter
Born: February 27, 1956

High profile celebrity...leader...team player...entertaining...engaging...
passionate...credible...witty...opinionated...delivers unique perspective on
sports...brings 15 solid years of national television and media
experience...hard hitting interviewer with rare combination of
tough journalistic integrity and likeability...rises above the competition...
takes listener calls...appeals to sports junkies and casual fans
nationwide with topics ranging from the serious to the
sublime...doesn't shy away from controversy...great personality...
this guy gets it...a must listen...a Hall of Fame Talent!

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TSN's

BY MIKE DECOURCY

1. WAKE FOREST Why elevate the Demon Deacons to this height? Sure, they haven't advanced to the Final Four since 1962. Their coach has a sub-.500 career record in NCAA Tournament games. They were last in the ACC in field goal defense last season. A school this small hasn't won a title since, oh, Milan High in 1954. But here's what Wake has that the big schools don't: Chris Paul. He led the U.S. young men's national team to a qualifying gold medal with the same gifts that are at work for the Deacons: his poise, knack for communicating and ridiculous basketball skills. This is not just a one-man deal. Paul's backcourt partner, Justin Gray, is an amazing shooter. The Deacons are deep enough to withstand a few nicks. They have a powerful frontcourt. Wake is not a perfect team, but it has the perfect player to move in that direction.

2. KANSAS It will be years before we're certain who got the better deal when Roy Williams took the North Carolina job and Bill Self moved into Roy's office at Kansas. But right now, Self gets to coach Wayne Simien. He is a versatile, hungry forward who has yet to play with a team that falls short of the Elite Eight. This is the last year for Simien and classmates Aaron Miles and Keith Langford. Their transition to playing for Self last year was a challenge, but they improved as the season advanced. Now they have a chance to win the title they nearly captured under Williams. That would be a sweet fringe benefit for Self.

3. NORTH CAROLINA Once upon a time, when a young Kenyon Martin played for the U.S. national team, he discovered something surprising. He was great. It's possible Sean May learned the same lesson this summer. May never has lacked confidence, but he saw how far he could stand out from an exceptional crowd. With the Tar Heels, he finally has help inside-freshman Marvin Williams. For Carolina to finish this high, guard Raymond Felton needs to recognize May as a priority, and wing Rashad McCants must understand he will be more dangerous when defenses are preoccupied



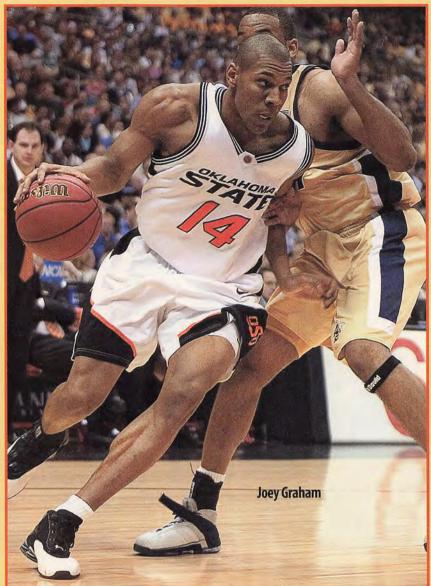
down low. Here's a campaign slogan for this year's Tar Heels: May in March. Follow that, and they might play in April.

4 SYRACUSE There is more out there for Hakim Warrick, or he wouldn't be here. He has an NCAA championship ring, All-American honors and a scoring average just on the short side of 20 points per game. But he can get better. He can continue the progression from athlete to player and carry Syracuse back to the Final Four. Warrick is part of an impressive package. Guard Gerry McNamara might be the best pressure player in Division I. The zone defense should be tighter now that last year's freshmen are this year's sophomores. The Orange are well past wondering how to get by without Carmelo Anthony. But they're not yet Warrick's team. He's still working on that.

5. OKLAHOMA STATE Suddenly, Stillwater doesn't seem so remote. Winning big will do that. Recruits are interested, and TV is calling. When big man Ivan McFarlin earned a fourth season of eligibility, the Cowboys retained their status as national title contenders. Joey Graham appears ready to seize the role as scoring leader. He is a rugged, agile forward who rarely steps beyond what coach Eddie Sutton expects from him. But Sutton's demands on Graham will grow. John Lucas still will make most of the decisions with the ball.

GEORGIA TECH They opened in the final four of the Preseason NIT and closed in the upper-case Final Four. In between, the Yellow Jackets finished tied for third in the ACC. And-what do you know-this year could be the same. Great achievement outside the conference, more arduous battles in the backyard. Tech's most significant obstacle could be a tendency to relax, knowing it's possible to advance in the tournament even after flirting with .500 in the league. Slipping seems unlikely, given Paul Hewitt's resourceful coaching and point guard Jarrett Jack's leadership. The Jackets won't defend their Preseason NIT title because they're not allowed to enter. There's no rule against consecutive Final Four trips.

7. MISSISSIPPI STATE This may still be news to some, but the Bulldogs are a power. Their last three teams compiled a composite .771 winning percentage, even though they are one of few SEC teams that play a competitive nonleague schedule. What's missing is postseason success. They haven't seen the Sweet 16 since 1996. This team can change that, but only if new point guard Gary Ervin can run a halfcourt offense as well as he can run. Ervin's



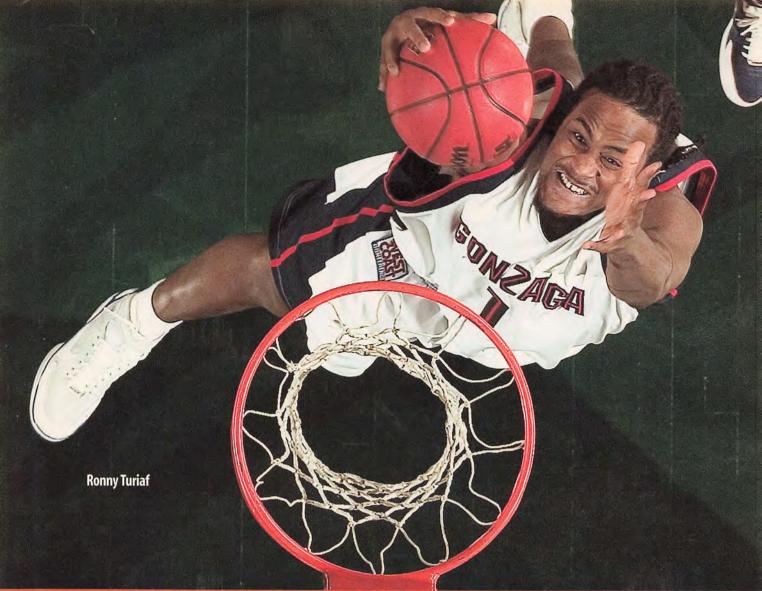
speed will bring a new dimension. Lawrence Roberts is back for a second straight season as the NCAA's best power forward. He'd like that season to last a while longer.

8. DUKE You expect the Blue Devils to go away? Why? Because they lost Chris Duhon and Luol Deng? The year after they lost Bobby Hurley, they went to the NCAA final. After losing Shane Battier, they earned a No. 1 seed. If the Devils can persist without them, they can make it now. This team has five McDonald's All-Americans. J.J. Redick and Daniel Ewing are the best set of shooters you'll find. There is power and experience up front. The Blue Devils still have Mike Krzyzewski, who left Kobe Bryant to run some other coach's life. We may end up sorry we have the Devils this low.

9. KENTUCKY Through two years in which the Wildcats dominated the SEC as if it were the good old days, what kept them from carrying that supremacy into the NCAA Tournament was a shortage of pro-level talent. This isn't a problem any longer. Kentucky has three 2004 McDonald's All-Americans, including Randolph Morris and Joe Crawford. Once they're comfortable, they will command attention, which will empower veterans Chuck Hayes and Kelenna Azubuike. Running the attack is Patrick Sparks, who directed big winners at Western Kentucky. For his backup, UK has its third prep star, Rajon Rondo. Could the Wildcats now have too much talent?

10. ILLINOIS In reaching last year's Sweet 16, guards Deron Williams and Dee Brown grasped their roles in new coach Bruce Weber's offense and methodically dismantled opposing backcourts. Both can play point guard or shooting guard, which makes stopping

ROBERT SEALE / TSN



ROBERT SEALE / TSN

them more difficult. The Illini's primary need is for Brown to stay healthy, which became a concern when he aggravated a stress fracture during the offseason. They also need offensive balance and rebounding help for PF James Augustine. If they get all three, the Illini might be making an even deeper run in this year's NCAA Tournament.

11. PITTSBURGH The heart of the program exited with Jaron Brown, but the Panthers still have Carl Krauser's legs, Chevon Troutman's shoulders and Chris Taft's remarkable hands. That's a good start. Pitt needs to use its inside power better than it did at the close of last season. It will have to continue playing high-level defense without Brown and Julius Page, who shut down opposing wing players. Krauser's control is more important. He was in charge of the ball before, but he needs to make this his team and prove he has a head for the game.

12. ARIZONA The school that has given us Mike Bibby, Steve Kerr and Sean Elliott is not accustomed to running short on players. That happened last year when Isaiah Fox was injured and there was no big man to take his place. The problem was temporary. With some fine recruits joining the program and Fox again healthy, this will be more like the Arizona we've always known. Mustafa Shakur and Hassan Adams rank with the best at their positions. Salim Stoudamire can be an astounding scorer, but he isn't always the easiest guy to coach. Arizona has enough players again. Will it have a team?

13. CONNECTICUT This seems a steep plunge from their No. 1 status, but the Huskies no longer can rely on the NBA draft's No. 2 (Emeka Okafor) and No. 3 (Ben Gordon) selections.

Significant contributors remain from UConn's second NCAA championship team, including shooting star Rashad

Anderson and feisty power forward Josh Boone. Freshman Rudy Gay is good enough to be a program-changer had he chosen a program that needed changing. For these Huskies, the best thing about defending the championship is they won't be expected to win it again. But it shouldn't surprise us if we look up in late March and find they still are climbing.

14. LOUTSVILLE The bad news for last season's Cardinals becomes the best news for this team: Ellis Myles is back from a knee injury that kept him in dress clothes throughout 2003-04. Louisville was not deep or physical enough without him last season and lacked the spirit he provides. Now that there's someone to deal with on the inside, it'll be harder for opponents to surround Francisco Garcia. But the lingering question about this team also is a health issue. Point guard Taquan Dean is the most consistent Cardinal at both ends when he's not in pain. The Cards

need him fit. The less time their players spend in the training room, the longer they'll stick around the Top 25.

15. MARYLAND If it seems frightening that Maryland has nine of its top 10 players back from last season, consider all nine will be Terps again in 2005-06. Maryland still is rebuilding from the Juan Dixon era. It's just rebuilding at a very high level. In the most difficult of conferences, the ACC, the Terps struggled until March to reach their potential, then turned the season into a rousing success. They still face a battle because they're in a tough neighborhood and some players, such as Mike Jones and Travis Garrison, are growing into roles. But Maryland knows what to expect from John Gilchrist, who could excel running any team.

16. ALABAMA The Crimson Tide sheds a point guard every year. First Maurice Williams, now Antoine Pettway. They must rely on a freshman at this crucial position this year, with Alabama Mr. Basketball Ronald Steele headlining the three candidates. But he is surrounded by a team filled with proven players who have embraced their roles: the shooter (Earnest Shelton), the scorer (Kennedy Winston), the post threat (Chuck Davis) and the burgeoning big man (Jermareo Davidson). There are few teams with a stronger group of veteran players. That won't make it easy for Steele, but smoother than it might have been. He could last awhile in his new job.

17. MICHIGAN STATE There is a great team in this mix, but stitching it together has been a challenge for Tom Izzo. He has five talented wing players and two places where they fit. It's a math problem that would vex any coach. That hasn't been the only concern. The Spartans also were trying to disguise a lack of power forwards and point guards, so guess where some of those wings ended up? Freshman Drew Neitzel might solve the latter problem. Some young big men could be more ready to play. If that's the case, though, there really will be five wings for two spots. Sorting out that situation will consume Izzo's season.

18. TEHRS If you believe in the power of youth, you have to figure Texas is too low on this list. Nobody has better rookies than the Longhorns. It starts with point guard Daniel Gibson, who is big, fast and, most important, can get UT into its offense most every time down the court. Already big and powerful, the Horns are bigger and stronger with the addition of freshmen Mike Williams and LaMarcus Aldridge. Those guys won't be more important than veterans such as Brad Buckman and P.J. Tucker, but they

can help now. What Texas might lack is perimeter scoring. Rick Barnes signed up a lot of young studs, but he needs to shop for a shooter next time.

19. NOTRE DAME If last season started in February, the Irish might have been a force in March. They tore down the stretch, competing with the Big East's best even after losing center Torin Francis to injury. That success grew from the flourishing partnership of guards Chris Thomas and Chris Quinn. There should be more scoring help, with transfer Dennis Latimore eligible and Francis back in the lineup. Thomas will be entering his final season, a four-year starter who will rank with the leading scorers in Irish history. He won't make it to the top of that list, where Austin Carr has resided for decades. But Thomas could match Carr's three NCAA Tournament appearances.

20. GONZAGA Now you can see we have rounded up all the usual suspects: Duke, North Carolina, Kentucky and, of course, the Zags. Gonzaga might have its share of skeptics, but few of them vote in the AP poll, where the team ended the 2003-04 regular season at No. 3. This team will be quicker and should improve on defense. There are enough changes in the rotation that last year's dominance might be difficult to achieve, but that doesn't mean dropping from the scene. There is one more change, befitting the program's stature. The Zags are leaving their high schoolstyle gym and moving into a plush, new

21. STANFORD The guy who made the Cardinal great is gone, and we're not talking Josh Childress. Every year, Mike Montgomery took the players he had and the few recruits the admissions folks let him consider and constructed a Pac-10 contender. Few men have faced a greater challenge in replacing a coach than Trent Johnson does now. There's a lot of comfort in having point guard Chris Hernandez to assist the transition. The Cardinal might have to work to manufacture baskets, but the remaining players (including Rob Little and Nick Robinson) should form an elite defensive unit. Montgomery is a tough act to follow, but he left behind some tough guys to help.

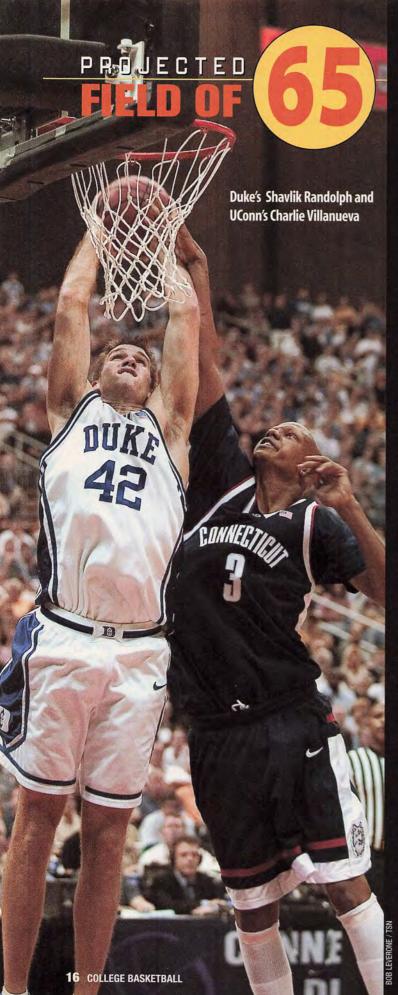
22. N.C. STATE Of the 64 teams that lost in last year's NCAA Tournament, none exited more painfully. The Wolfpack was in the Sweet 16, then it wasn't, blowing an unblowable lead against Vanderbilt. That's three tournament heartbreakers in a row for Julius Hodge, and he did not bring his All-American self back to college to make it four.

Hodge can change a game with a big shot, a sizzling pass or a spectacular defensive play. With Duke and Carolina so close, it's tough for even the best State players to be fully appreciated. Hodge won't be in the company of the great David Thompson, but he'll be alone in second place.

23 WASHINGTON The mistake Lorenzo Romar made was executing last season's biggest turnaround in the final eight weeks. That meant the Huskies got to play in the NCAA Tournament. If he'd held back until this season, he'd be national coach of the year. Romar cut loose his athletic guards in an energetic style that led to a 14-4 finish. UW is counting on the confidence gained-and the continuing improvement of point guard Nate Robinson-to provide momentum. The Huskies have not made success a habit; only once in their history did they manage back-to-back NCAA appearances. Maybe if Romar gets them that far again, he'll still be a candidate for some postseason honors.

24. MEMPHIS The difference between point guard Darius Washington and many of the stars John Calipari has recruited to Memphis is clear: He showed up. Several prospective Tigers have found the NBA draft more enticing, but Washington is here to learn the game and prove he can run a team. Washington always has been a scorer first. Here's his first tip as a distributor: Get the ball to Sean Banks. The Tigers' lean power forward was a revelation his first season and now is even more important to the offense. The Tigers need better interior defense and rebounding but lost frontcourt bulk when Ivan Lopez left for overseas pro ball after one season. Doesn't anybody want to keep Calipari company?

25. FLORIDA When Billy Donovan restructured his coaching staff after the disastrous end to the 2003-04 season, he decided upon former Clemson coach Larry Shyatt as one of his assistants. Shyatt has much to add, but Donovan missed a real opportunity here. This team needs Dr. Phil. The Gators played some excellent basketball, winning six games against SEC opponents that made the NCAAs. But on the biggest stages, they flopped, including two losses to Kentucky by a combined 36 points and an embarrassing NCAA Tournament elimination courtesy of Manhattan. It's easy to forget Florida's youth, given that Matt Walsh and Anthony Roberson were instant starters. But they're juniors now. Time to grow up and pass the ball.



AMERICA EAST: *Vermont

ATLANTIC COAST: Duke, Georgia Tech, Maryland, North

Carolina, N.C. State, *Wake Forest

ATLANTIC SUN: *Stetson

ATLANTIC 10: *George Washington, Xavier

BIG EAST: Boston College, Connecticut, Notre Dame,

Pittsburgh, Seton Hall, *Syracuse, Villanova

BIG SKY: *Eastern Washington

BIG SOUTH: *Birmingham Southern

BIG TEN: *Illinois, Michigan, Michigan State, Wisconsin

BIG 12: Iowa State, *Kansas, Oklahoma,

Oklahoma State, Texas

BIG WEST: *Pacific

COLONIAL: *Drexel

CONFERENCE USA: Charlotte, Cincinnati, DePaul,

*Louisville, Marquette, Memphis

HORIZON: *Illinois-Chicago

IVY: *Princeton

METRO ATLANTIC: *Manhattan

MID-AMERICAN: *Toledo

MID-CONTINENT: *Oral Roberts

MID-EASTERN ATHLETIC: *South Carolina State

MISSOURI VALLEY: *Southern Illinois

MOUNTAIN WEST: UNLV, *Utah

NORTHEAST: *Monmouth

OHIO VALLEY: *Austin Peav

PACIFIC-10: *Arizona, Oregon, Stanford, Washington

PATRIOT: *Lehigh

SOUTHEASTERN: Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, LSU,

*Mississippi State, South Carolina

SOUTHERN: *East Tennessee State

SOUTHLAND: *Texas-San Antonio

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC: *Southern

SUN BELT: *Louisiana-Lafayette

WEST COAST: *Gonzaga

WESTERN ATHLETIC: Rice, *UTEP

*Automatic bid

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IN THE MAG

MAKES YOU THINK

In Atlanta, MVP means the Michael Vick Plan, which could easily translate into the more conventional Most Valuable Player in 2004. No new coach in the NFL has more to work with at quarterback than Jim Mora and he plans to take full advantage by insisting on -- surprise!

-- some control.



HE SAID WHAT?

"If you give everything you've got as an athlete, you're always in your own Hall of Fame. Still, it's special when a group that decides who should be there says, 'Come on in.' Long after I'm gone, some kid can see what I did in the NFL. I've been blessed and now I'm importal"

EDITOR'S SCOOP

HERE IS WHAT WE THINK YOU NEED TO KNOW TODAY!

You think your city is a good -- or even a great -- sports city? We'll tell who's our No. 1, as well as the top city in each of the sports we cover. Hint:

Goodbye, No-mah.

It's no stretch: Allen Iverson and Larry Brown recreate their stirring soap opera love/hate relationship and Iverson says the hell with it and doesn't go to Athens for the Summer Games:

IMAGES OF THE WEEK





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TSN ALL-AMERIC

FIRST TEAM

Julius Hodge 6-6/191 Sr. N.C. State 18.2 6.4 Some folks think he's not a point guard, but funny how State hasn't needed one since Hodge showed up. And though he might be an odd fit, he must be a good one. The Wolfpack hadn't made the NCAA Tournament in more than a decade before he arrived; they haven't missed since. Hodge is a voracious offensive player, never ceasing his attack. Once intent on proving himself as a shooter, Hodge now understands the value of selectivity. If there is a statistical category, he's got a big number in that column. That includes turnovers because Hodge takes chances others might not. It works for him, and for his team.

Chris Paul 6-0/168 So. **Wake Forest** Some players have a gift for connecting to others. Among those who passed through in recent years: Shane Battier, Carmelo Anthony, Jameer Nelson. Paul is the next. Try to find someone he has encountered off the court who wasn't charmed. Try to find one who met him in a game and left unimpressed. Paul looks smaller than he is and plays tougher than he looks. His lack of self-interest was apparent the seven times he recorded single-digit scoring totals in Wake victories. As he learns to take over games when necessary and to defend the point of attack, he will become the best college point of this decade.

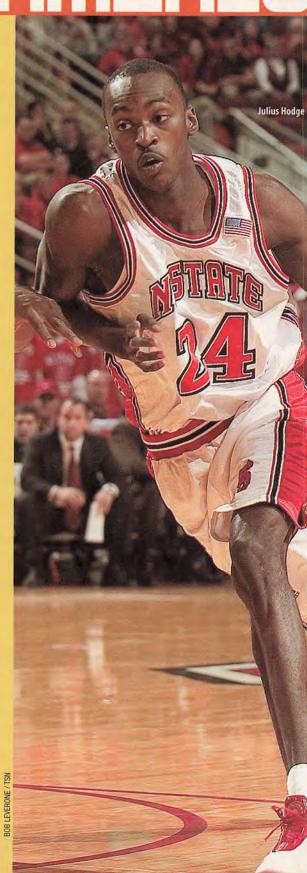
G/F Francisco Garcia 6-7/190 Jr. Louisville 16.4 4.5 4.7 The game moves slowly for a player such as Garcia. He sees openings others do not and takes advantage before defenders can react. He is best when creating a shot for himself, but only because there's no one around who will do something better with the ball. He's an excellent, willing passer and sees the floor well because of his size. Garcia's most exceptional quality, though, is a sense of the moment. He made a game-changing 3-pointer that led to a victory at Kentucky. He rescued Louisville from a lifeless second half at Tennessee and helped steal another road win. His most impressive games come in the most difficult circumstances.

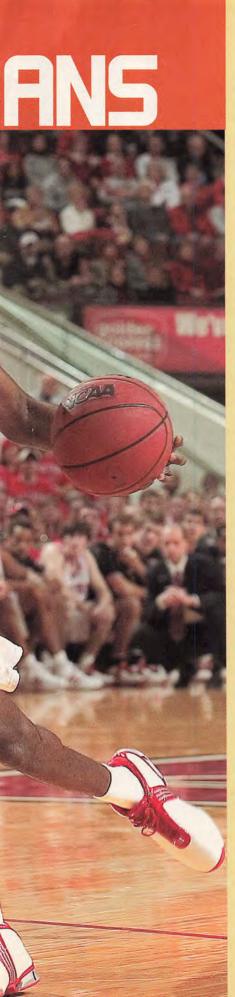
F/C Lawrence Roberts 6-9/235 Sr. Mississippi State 16.9 10.1 1.2 He can block shots and throw down dunks, but somehow Roberts manages to make such loud plays without attracting much attention. The thing is, he moves on to the next play. He does not need to scream at his opponents or gesticulate for TV cameras to reinforce that he's great. In his first season after transferring from Baylor, Roberts presented the Bulldogs with 16 double-doubles, including an 18-point, 21rebound performance at Alabama. Roberts shoots well facing the goal. He could be more dangerous with a post move or two but is a tenacious offensive rebounder and quietly generates points when his teammates miss.

Wayne Simien 6-9/255 Sr. Kansas 17.8 9.3 In three seasons, because of various injuries, Simien has played 1,925 minutes for the Jayhawks—about a third fewer than classmate Keith Langford. So there still should be a lot of terrific basketball in Simien. He revealed plenty last year, especially at the end, when he averaged 18.0 points and 10.3 rebounds in the Jayhawks' drive to the Elite Eight. He is ideal for the high/low offense that coach Bill Self uses because Simien can handle himself on the blocks or out on the floor. His one weakness is handling the ball; he commits too many turnovers and must do a better job

SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Ht./Wt.	Class	PPG	RPG	APG
F	Hakim Warrick	Syracuse	6-8/209	Sr.	19.8	8.6	2.6
F	Ryan Gomes	Providence	6-7/240	Sr.	18.9	9.4	2.3
G/F	Joey Graham	Oklahoma St.	6-7/217	Sr.	12.4	5.2	1.1
G	Deron Williams	Illinois	6-3/210	Jr.	14.0	3.2	6.2
G/F	Hassan Adams	Arizona	6-4/201	Jr.	17.2	7.3	1.6





POINT GUARDS

Rk. Player, Ht./Wt., Year, School

1. Chris Paul, 6-0/168 So., Wake Forest 2. Julius Hodge, 6-6/191, Sr., N.C. State 3. Deron Williams, 6-3/210, Jr., Illinois 4. Travis Diener, 6-1/170, Sr., Marquette 5. Jarrett Jack, 6-3/198, Jr., Georgia Tech 6. John Gilchrist, 6-3/199, Jr., Maryland 7. Raymond Felton, 6-1/194, Jr., North Carolina 8. Chris Thomas, 6-1/185, Sr., Notre Dame 9. Nate Robinson, 5-9/180, Jr., Washington 10. Chris Hernandez, 6-2/190, Jr., Stanford 11. Mustafa Shakur, 6-3/178, So., Arizona 12. John Lucas, 5-11/152, Sr., Oklahoma State 13. Tim Smith, 5-9/155, Jr., East Tennessee State 14. Carl Krauser, 6-2/200, Jr., Pittsburgh 15. Ronnie Brewer, 6-7/200, So., Arkansas 16. Daniel Horton, 6-3/200, Jr., Michigan 17. Aaron Miles, 6-1/175, Sr., Kansas

POWER FORWARDS

Rk. Player, Ht./Wt., Year, School

1. Lawrence Roberts, 6-9/235, Sr., Mississippi St.

2. Wayne Simien, 6-9/255, Sr., Kansas

3. Hakim Warrick, 6-8/209, Sr., Syracuse

4. Ryan Gomes, 6-7/240, Sr., Providence

5. Craig Smith, 6-7/255, Jr., Boston College

6. Taylor Coppenrath, 6-9/250, Sr., Vermont

7. Chuck Hayes, 6-6/247, Sr., Kentucky

8. Sean Banks, 6-8/206, So., Memphis

9. Curtis Withers, 6-8/230, Jr., Charlotte

10. Brandon Bass, 6-8/252, So., LSU

11. Jason Maxiell, 6-7/250, Sr., Cincinnati

12. Shavlik Randolph, 6-10/230, Jr., Duke

13. Curtis Sumpter, 6-7/220, Jr., Villanova

14. Chevon Troutman, 6-7/236, Sr., Pittsburgh

15. Linas Kleiza, 6-8/233, So., Missouri

16. Paul Millsap, 6-8/235, So., Louisiana Tech

17. Matt Harvasz, 6-10/225, Jr., Stanford

18. Marvin Williams, 6-9/225, Fr., North Carolina

19. Danny Granger, 6-8/220, Sr., New Mexico

20. David Lee, 6-9/249, Sr., Florida

Rk. Player, Ht./Wt., Year, School

1. Francisco Garcia, 6-7/190, Jr., Louisville 2. Justin Gray, 6-2/185, Jr., Wake Forest

20. Ken Tutt, 6-1/175, So., Oral Roberts

SHOOTING GUARDS

18. Anthony Roberson, 6-1/180, Jr., Florida

19. Keydren Clark, 5-9/167, Jr., St. Peter's

20. Jerel Blassingame, 5-10/170, Sr., UNLV

3. Bracev Wright, 6-3/200, Jr., Indiana 4. Rashad McCants, 6-4/207, Jr., North Carolina 5. J.J. Redick, 6-4/190, Jr., Duke 6. B.J. Elder, 6-4/218, Sr., Georgia Tech 7. Gerry McNamara, 6-2/179, Jr., Syracuse 8. Dee Brown, 6-0/175, Jr., Illinois 9. Curtis Stinson, 6-2/205, So., Iowa State 10. Daniel Ewing, 6-3/180, Sr., Duke 11. Darren Brooks, 6-3/205, Sr., Southern Illinois 12. Allan Ray, 6-2/205, Jr., Villanova 13. Keith Langford, 6-4/215, Sr., Kansas 14. Earnest Shelton, 6-3/200, Sr., Alabama 15. Rashad Anderson, 6-5/210, Jr., Connecticut 16. Scooter McFadgon, 6-5/207, Sr., Tennessee 17. Maurice Ager, 6-4/190, Jr., Michigan State 18. Joe Crawford, 6-4/205, Fr., Kentucky 19. Will Conroy, 6-2/190, Sr., Washington

SMALL FORWARDS

Rk. Player, Ht./Wt., Year, School

1. Hassan Adams, 6-4/201, Jr., Arizona 2. Joey Graham, 6-7/217, Sr., Oklahoma State 3. Kennedy Winston, 6-6/205, Jr., Alabama

4. Adam Morrison, 6-8/215, So., Gonzaga

5. J.R. Giddens, 6-5/200, So., Kansas

6. P.J. Tucker, 6-5/225, So., Texas

7. Malik Hairston, 6-6/200, Fr., Oregon

8. Alando Tucker, 6-5/205, So., Wisconsin

9. Rodney Carney, 6-7/205, Jr., Memphis

10. Kelenna Azubuike, 6-5/208, Jr., Kentucky

11. Rudy Gay, 6-9/215, Fr., Connecticut

12. Antoine Wright, 6-7/205, Jr., Texas A&M 13. Jawad Williams, 6-9/223, Sr., North Carolina

14. Dijon Thompson, 6-7/198, Sr., UCLA

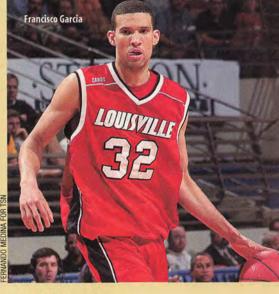
15. Carlos Powell, 6-7/220, Sr., South Carolina

16. Lester Abram, 6-6/200, Jr., Michigan

17. Omar Thomas, 6-5/205, Sr., UTEP 18. Von Wafer, 6-5/210, So., Florida State

19. Nik Caner-Medley, 6-8/233, Jr., Maryland

20. Rawle Marshall, 6-7/190, Sr., Oakland



CENTERS

Rk. Player, Ht./Wt., Year, School

1. Sean May, 6-9/260, Jr., North Carolina 2. Andrew Bogut, 7-0/242, So., Utah

3. Ike Diogu, 6-8/250, Jr., Arizona State

4. Paul Davis, 6-11/250, Jr., Michigan State 5. Chris Taft, 6-10/250, So., Pittsburgh

6. Ronny Turiaf, 6-10/243, Sr., Gonzaga

7. Eric Williams, 6-9/275, Jr., Wake Forest

8. Shelden Williams, 6-9/240, Jr., Duke

9. Torin Francis, 6-11/252, Jr., Notre Dame

10. Josh Boone, 6-10/230, So., Connecticut

11. Kevin Bookout, 6-8/259, Jr., Oklahoma

12. Matt Nelson, 7-1/270, Sr., Colorado State

13. Luke Schenscher, 7-1/250, Sr., Georgia Tech

14. Randolph Morris, 6-11/250, Fr., Kentucky 15. Jermareo Davidson, 6-10/210, So., Alabama

16. Kelly Whitney, 6-8/240, Jr., Seton Hall

17. Nick Fazekas, 6-11/225, So., Nevada

18. Ivan McFarlin, 6-8/232, Sr., Oklahoma State

19. Michael Harris, 6-6/240, Sr., Rice

20. Leon Powe, 6-8/245, So., California

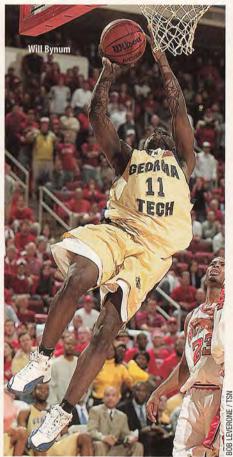
BACKCOURTS L

(PROJECTED STARTERS IN BOLD)

- 1. Wake Forest: Taron Downey, Justin Gray, Chris Paul: A lot of thought went into placing the Demon Deacons at No. 1 in the SPORTING NEWS preseason poll. But putting Wake's splendid trio of guards here was made without even touching the brain's "On"
- 2. Georgia Tech: Will Bynum, B.J. Elder, Jarrett Jack: The electric Bynum won three consecutive NCAA Tournament games for Tech—and he didn't even start last season. Jack is an elite point guard. Elder can score in bunches and is the closest thing to a go-to guy on this balanced team.
- 3. North Carolina: Raymond Felton, Rashad McCants, Melvin Scott, Quentin Thomas: Felton is an assist machine. McCants can shoot deep, penetrate, finish at the rim-and even post up. He also has a knack for hitting clutch shots. Thomas will supply quality minutes when Felton grabs a breather.
- 4. Maryland: John Gilchrist, Mike Jones, Chris McCray, D.J. Strawberry: Gilchrist scored 18 or more points in six of the final nine games last season. He's an efficient, creative scorer who should reach full stardom this season. McCray is a nice complementary scorer and playmaker. Jones played sparingly as a freshman, but he might be the most talented Terp. The long, athletic Strawberry could become a shutdown defender.
- 5. Illinois: Dee Brown, Luther Head, Rich McBride, Deron Williams: Brown can penetrate and shoot it deep. A stress fracture

in his leg puts his season in question, though, and it's unclear if he'll have his usual explosiveness if he does play. Williams is a terrific playmaker. His strength overpowers most opponents, and he can pass over them, as well. Head is an athletic wing who can hurt teams from the perimeter.

- 6. Duke: Sean Dockery, Daniel Ewing, DeMarcus Nelson, J.J. Redick: Redick is one of the most feared long-distance shooters around. Ewing also is a capable shooter. The plan was for Shaun Livingston to replace Chris Duhon at the point, but Livingston instead went to the NBA (well, to the Clippers). That puts the onus on Dockery, who is a question offensively.
- 7. Kansas: Keith Langford, Michael Lee, Aaron Miles, Russell Robinson: Langford and Miles have combined to go 12-3 in the NCAA Tournament during their three years at Kansas. Langford is at his best scoring off a variety of spins, drives and pullups. Miles will



lead the Big 12 in assists (again). He isn't a great offensive player, but he is a capable defender. Robinson will be a contributing player this season—a star shortly thereafter. The burly Lee can shoot or break down a smaller wing.

- 8. Louisville: Taquan Dean, Francisco Garcia, Brandon Jenkins, Lorrenzo Wade: Dean had surgery to correct a persistent groin injury, but should be at full strength for the season. He's a very good 3-point threat; Garcia can shoot, handle the ball and pass like a point—and he's 6-7.
- 9. Syracuse: Billy Edelin, Louie McCroskey, Gerry McNamara, Josh Pace, Josh Wright. McNamara is an unbelievable shooter who can carry a team (witness his 43-point showing against BYU in the NCAAs last year). Pace isn't a shooter, but he can be a good scorer. He rebounds and passes well and rarely leaves the floor. Edelin's return will allow McNamara to play off the ball more and give the Orange a wealth of playmakers.
- 10. Marquette: Joe Chapman, Travis Diener, Dameon Mason: Diener is one of those rare talents who is capable of leading his conference in scoring and assists. He's a deadeve shooter with exceptional toughness. Mason emerged as one of the rising wings in the game during the second half of last season. He isn't Dwyane Wade, but he's not too bad, either.
- 11. Arizona: Jawann McClellan, Chris Rodgers, Mustafa Shakur, Salim Stoudamire.
- 12. Notre Dame: Colin Falls, Chris Quinn, Chris Thomas.
- 13. N.C. State: Engin Atsur, Tony Bethel, Julius Hodge.
- 14. Iowa State: Will Blalock, John Neal, Curtis Stinson.
- 15. Washington: Will Conroy, Nate Robinson, Brandon Roy, Tre Simmons.
- 16. Kentucky: Ramel Bradley, Joe Crawford, Rajon Rondo,

Patrick Sparks.

- 17. Michigan State: Maurice Ager, Shannon Brown, Chris Hill, Drew Neitzel, Kelvin Torbert.
- 18. Tennessee: Stanley Asumnu, Dane Bradshaw, Scooter McFadgon, C.J. Watson.
- 19. Indiana: Donald Perry, A.J. Ratliff, Marshall Strickland, Robert Vaden, Bracey Wright.
- 20. Arkansas: Ronnie Brewer, Eric Ferguson, Dontell Jefferson, Jonathan Modica.

FRONTCOURTS

T BY KYLE VELTROP

- 1. Connecticut: Hilton Armstrong, Josh Boone, Denham Brown, Rudy Gay, Ed Nelson, Charlie Villanueva, Marcus White: Boone has the ability to lead the nation in rebounding. If committed, the gifted Villanueva will thrive. Gay, who also could play some shooting guard, is a future lottery pick. The thick Brown is a proven scorer, while Nelson and White can bang.
- 2. North Carolina: Jackie Manuel, Sean May, David Noel, Jawad Williams, Marvin Williams: May is one of the best low-post players around, a double-double waiting to happen. Marvin Williams is one of the most gifted freshmen around, while Jawad Williams is a solid complementary player.
- 3. Kansas: Alex Galindo, J.R. Giddens, C.J. Giles, Sasha Kaun, Wayne Simien: If Simien's body, which often betrays him, holds up, the Jayhawks will be one of the nation's best teams. Giddens has ridiculous range and is a spectacular dunker in the open floor. David Padgett's transfer means freshmen Kaun and Giles need to provide protection for Simien.
- 4. Mississippi State: Marcus Campbell, Ontario Harper, Shane Power, Lawrence Roberts: Roberts is a player of the year candidate, a beast inside who is intent on broadening his game. Power is a good shooter who is gaining a comfort level after sitting out a year as a transfer then battling a knee injury last season. Campbell provides size. Harper missed last year but was a starter two seasons ago.
- **5. Pittsburgh:** John DeGroat, Aaron Gray, Levon Kendall, **Mark McCarroll, Chris Taft, Chevon Troutman:** All Taft, a first-team All-Freshman pick by TSN, needs is offensive polish to reach star level. He provides a presence on defense. Troutman made 65.4 percent of his shots last year and is Pitt's best defender. Even as a senior, McCarroll is a bit of an unknown, but he had some big games last season (26 vs. Georgia, 15 vs. both Connecticut and Syracuse).
- **6. Texas:** LaMarcus Aldridge, **Brad Buckman**, Dion Dowell, **Jason Klotz**, **P.J. Tucker**, Mike Williams: The inside depth has Rick Barnes contemplating using Tucker some at shooting guard. Buckman and Klotz are no-nonsense players with some skill. Aldridge and Williams are ballyhooed recruits. Look for Williams to make a bigger impact off the bat.
- **7. Gonzaga:** Josh Heytvelt, **Sean Mallon**, **Adam Morrison**, **Ronny Turiaf**: Turiaf is one of the better big men around—when he plays. Foul



trouble too often turns him into a spectator (only 26.9 minutes per game last season). Morrison has great touch and polished moves; he is coming off a strong freshman year, as is Mallon.

- 8. Arizona: Hassan Adams, Isaiah Fox, Channing Frye, Ivan Radenovic, Mohamed Tangara: Jumping-jack Adams will be free to play small forward after wrestling big bodies for much of last year. His athleticism, versatility and energy make him one of the nation's top players. Frye should be aided by the presence of more size.
- 9. Kentucky: Kelenna Azubuike, Chuck Hayes, Randolph Morris: Azubuike likely will be the No. 1 option—at least until freshman guard Joe Crawford settles in. Hayes is a blue-collar beauty, a versatile player who finds ways to get things done. He won't have to defend centers as much, now that the heralded recruit Morris has landed in Lexington.
- 10. Memphis: Sean Banks, Arthur Barclay, Rodney Carney, Richard Dorsey, Duane Erwin: Banks led the team in scoring and rebounding as a freshman. He can play inside or step out and hit the 3. Carney averaged 15.0 points over the last nine games last season, including a 26-point showing against South Carolina in the NCAA Tournament. Erwin provides size and rebounding, and coach John Calipari is high on Dorsey.
- 11. Oklahoma State: Terrence Crawford, Joey Graham, Ivan McFarlin, Aaron Pettway.
- 12. Boston College: Nate Doornekamp, Jared Dudley, Craig Smith, Gordon Watt.
- 13. Duke: Lee Melchionni, Shavlik Randolph, Shelden Williams.
- 14. Alabama: Evan Brock, Jermareo Davidson, Chuck Davis, Kennedy Winston
- 15. Wisconsin: Brian Butch, Andreas Helmigk, Zach Morley, Ray Nixon, Alando Tucker, Mike Wilkinson.

- **16. Charlotte: Eddie Basden**, E.J. Drayton, **Martin Iti, Curtis Withers**.
- 17. LSU: Brandon Bass, Glen Davis, Antonio Hudson, Darnell Lazare.
- **18. Wake Forest:** Vytas Danelius, **Jamaal Levy**, Trent Strickland, Kyle Visser, **Eric Williams**.
- 19. Oklahoma: Kevin Bookout, Brandon Foust, Johnnie Gilbert, Taj Gray, Larry Turner.
- 20. Maryland: Nik Caner-Medley, Hassan Fofana, Travis Garrison, Ekene Ibekwe.

National rank 1 By Mike DeCourcy

Atlantic Coast

Prosser, Wake Forest look up to challenge of winning it all

e had a home. Not just a house, but a home. He had security, respect, prominence in his community. He had a favorite bar. Skip Prosser belonged at Xavier, and still he left when he got the chance. Now you can see why.

Prosser is coaching Chris Paul, Justin

Gray, Eric Williams and the rest of the Wake Forest team that is the Sporting News' choice to become NCAA champion. But it's a team that nonetheless will struggle to finish first in the ACC. That's because the league is the most competitive in the nation.

But this is what Prosser wanted. He viewed the ACC as the college game's pinnacle and longed to challenge himself. His results so far are more than respectable: one conference title, three first-division finishes, a .698 winning percentage.

However, advancing to the Final Four is a different challenge. Wake Forest hasn't been there since 1962, the longest drought for any team in TSN's top 10. The last championship team to conquer such a history was Connecticut, which won the 1999 title in its first Final Four. The Deacons have plenty of talent. Paul

and Gray ranked among the leading scorers for the U.S. team that claimed a gold medal in the qualifying tournament for the Young Men's World Championship. Williams would have made the team if not for injury.

This is a great offensive team. Its development into a great team will require significant progress on defense, where last season the Deacs ranked last in the ACC.

ASCENDING: Florida State. Coach Leonard Hamilton has done an impressive job of building up the program's talent pool, and that will pay off even without star guard Tim Pickett.

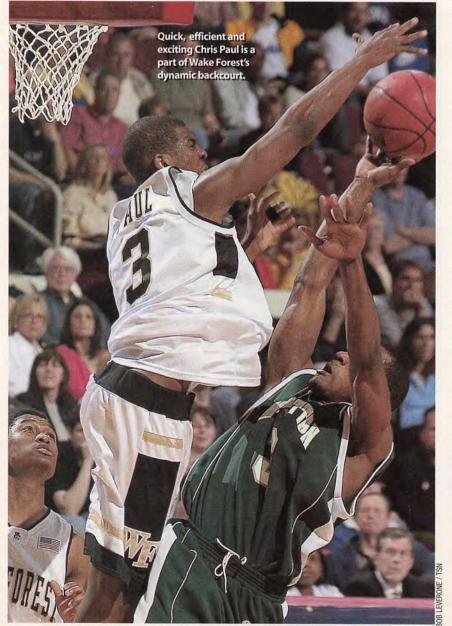
DESCENDING: Virginia Tech. Coach Seth Greenberg did some of the best unrecognized coaching last season in getting Tech above the .500 mark. But he since lost his best player, Bryant Matthews. More important, he lost some easy "Ws" by leaving the Big East and moving into the deeper ACC.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Sean May, F/C, North Carolina. At last, May knows what it's like to play when someone has his back. The U.S. took a 12-player roster to the Young Men's World Championship qualifier, and May led the gold medal squad with averages of 16 points and 9.5 rebounds. May, a skilled scorer with great hands and touch, has been forced to play tentatively because of Carolina's roster limitations. Not now. The Heels aren't deep, but at last May will have help.

2. Travis Garrison, F. Maryland, There have been plenty of big bodies in Garrison's way during two seasons with the Terps, but he periodically has shown the skills that made him a McDonald's All-American. Garrison has developed the toughness so many wanted to see from him and is a capable face-up shooter—even from 3-point range. He still needs to finish better.

3. Engin Atsur, G, N.C. State. He never will be an All-American. He probably won't ever be all-conference. But Atsur could be the



5003-	045	TAN	NIC	GS				
Conference Overall								
	W	L	W	L				
Duke	13	3	31	6				
N.C. State	11	5	21	10				
Wake Forest	9	7	21	10				
Georgia Tech	9	7	28	10				
North Carolina	8	8	19	11				
Maryland	7	9	20	12				
Florida State	6	10	19	13				
Virginia	6	10	18	13				
Clemson	3	13	10	18				

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- Florida State: Antonio Griffin will make an immediate impact on the glass. But it's the freshman backcourt duo of Jason Rich and Isaiah Swann that has Seminoles fans buzzing. They will push for starting jobs.
- **2. Georgia Tech:** Among the team's four top 100 recruits, forwards Jeremis Smith and Ra'Sean Dickey will battle for playing time. Anthony Morrow and Zam Frederick could add offense off the bench.
- **3. North Carolina:** The Tar Heels lost J.R. Smith to the NBA, but they still can showcase the ACC's best newcomer in Marvin Williams. Point guard Quentin Thomas adds backcourt depth.
- **4. N.C. State:** If transfer Tony Bethel can take ballhandling pressure off Julius Hodge, the Pack will surge. Big men Cedric Simmons and Andrew Brackman will battle for starting spots.
- **5. Virginia Tech:** Prep school wing man Deron Washington could start as a freshman, but he might be the No. 2 newcomer at Virginia Tech—6-3 combo Marquie Cooke should be an impact freshman.
- **5. Virginia:** 6-8 wing man Adrian Joseph and 6-10 Tunji Soroye add depth up front. Sean Singletary needs to take control of Pete Gillen's offense. He has the tools to be an elite floor general.
- **7. Clemson:** James Mays adds inside talent, and forward Cheyenne Moore and guard Troy Mathis will make cases for major minutes.
- 8. Duke: Duke lost Shaun Livingston to the NBA, but the Blue Devils get backcourt help from sweet-shooting David McClure and quick combo DeMarcus Nelson. Nelson needs to step into the rotation early.
- 9. Wake Forest: Top 100 prep Cameron Stanley could see immediate playing time off the bench.
- 10. Maryland: Wide-bodied rebounder James Gist, a top 100 talent, will help inside.
- **11. Miami:** The Hurricanes hope Fordham transfer Glenn Batemon can step in at the post. Coach Frank Haith also will look for quality minutes from freshmen Raymond Hicks and Antoine Mayhand.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

most efficient shooter N.C. State has employed under Herb Sendek. Atsur had only six games out of 30 in which he failed to make at least one 3-pointer. His percentage inside the line was significantly better than his long-range shooting—something increasingly rare among college players. He will have the opportunity to average in the mid-teens, and he'll deliver.

BEST BETS:

1. This will be it for Pete Gillen. This is the worst possible time and place to be facing a make-or-break season. Virginia is in a league with six of the nation's 22 best teams. Finishing ahead of any of them will take a remarkable performance.

2. Duke will not go away. Elsewhere, you're going to see the Blue Devils ranked in the teens. You're going to hear predictions of impending doom. Wishful thinking, perhaps. The Blue Devils still have J.J. Redick and Daniel Ewing on the wings and Shelden Williams and Shavlik Randolph inside.

3. Miami will knock off somebody big at home. The Hurricanes made a habit of this in the Big East, even when they were playing in front of sparse crowds. ACC teams already have shown they are susceptible to upsets when they cross the Florida state line on the way to Tallahassee.

E-mail senior writer Mike DeCourcy at decourcy@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Wake Forest	31	47.6	71.2	38.6	37.0	15.7	8.9	3.1	14.7	83.5
North Carolina	30	45.8	68.8	35.1	39.7	18.0	9.5	4.0	15.4	82.1
Duke	37	47.1	73.6	36.4	36.5	14.5	9.2	6.5	13.8	79.8
Maryland	32	44.1	63.1	33.7	41.3	14.1	8.6	6.7	15.2	77.4
Georgia Tech	38	46.5	69.2	36.6	37.4	15.2	8.9	4.5	15.2	76.6
Virginia	31	44.6	68.2	33.2	34.5	14.5	6.9	4.3	14.1	74.4
N.C. State	31	45.0	79.9	34.5	33.7	14.6	6.7	2.2	13.5	72.9
Florida State	33	43.8	68.6	37.6	36.1	14.9	8.8	3.8	15.7	71.5
Clemson	28	43.2	63.1	32.1	37.5	12.8	6.8	4.5	19.2	65.7

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Duke	37	40.7	69.4	32.4	34.2	11.8	6.6	3.4	17.2	65.0
Florida State	33	40.1	65.9	32.2	34.9	12.4	7.0	2.9	16.3	65.1
N.C. State	31	42.2	71.5	31.3	33.1	12.1	6.8	2.6	14.5	65.1
Georgia Tech	38	38.8	66.4	29.7	37.3	12.3	7.0	3.3	16.8	67.2
Clemson	28	42.7	72.2	33.3	33.6	13.9	10.4	3.0	14.1	70.9
Maryland	32	40.5	72.0	36.6	38.5	12.8	7.7	4.4	17.1	72.1
North Carolina	30	44.4	69.7	35.2	35.4	15.1	8.2	4.2	18.0	74.8
Virginia	31	42.7	68.0	34.8	39.8	14.9	6.9	4.2	15.2	74.9
Wake Forest	31	44.9	70.1	37.3	33.9	14.3	7.7	4.0	17.1	76.1

PREDICTIONS

the second party of the se	
1. Wake Forest*	7. Virginia
2. North Carolina*	8. Florida State
3. Georgia Tech*	9. Clemson
4. Duke*	10. Virginia Tech
5. Maryland*	11. Miami
6. N.C. State*	*NCAA tourney pick

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	John Gilchrist, Maryland	6-3	199	Jr.
G	Chris Paul, Wake Forest	6-0	168	So.
G/F	Julius Hodge, N.C. State	6-6	191	Sr.
G/F	Rashad McCants, North Carolina	6-4	207	Jr.
F/C	Sean May, North Carolina	6-9	260	Jr.

SECOND TEAM

SEC	LOND I LAM				
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class	
G	J.J. Redick, Duke	6-4	190	Jr.	
G	Raymond Felton, North Carolina	6-1	194	Jr.	
G	Justin Gray, Wake Forest	6-2	185	Jr.	
G	Jarrett Jack, Georgia Tech	6-3	198	Jr.	
F	Shelden Williams, Duke	6-9	240	Jr.	

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Chris Paul, G, Wake Forest

His dynamic personality might be surpassed only by the energy in his game. He's a passer who can rack up double-figure assists, a scorer who can drill a highlevel opponent for 30 and a leader who inspires his teammates to excel. The only remaining frontier is attacking the ball as a defender. Experience should make him better there.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Marvin Williams, F, North Carolina

He didn't come to college simply for the great dorm food. He came to learn from Roy Williams and perhaps do some NCAA Tournament damage. Classmates with lesser talent and reputation became NBA firstround picks, but Williams resisted. UNC will be rewarded with a long-armed power player who can juice up the interior defense and provide another scoring option.

MOST UNDERRATED Chris McCray, G, Maryland

If you're going to find underrated players in the ACC, they're usually at Maryland, where many of the recruits enter without fanfare but leave with substantial accomplish-



ments. McCray is quick, springy and difficult to guard. A late-season shooting slump knocked down his 3-point shooting, but he's not one-dimensional. He passes well, scores on quick cuts to the goal and makes free throws. As he continues to gain strength and experience, he will improve.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: J.J. Redick, Duke Best playmaker: Raymond Felton, UNC Best NBA prospect: Marvin Williams, UNC Best defender: Sean Dockery, Duke Most versatile: Julius Hodge, N.C. State

lake Fores

WHAT WE LIKE: Few teams have five returning double-figure scorers and, in the Deacons' case, you almost could say six because Vytas Danelius averaged 12.3 points per game in 2002-03 as a sophomore before injuries slowed him last year. The prize of the lot is Chris Paul, who was voted the conference's top rookie last season over Duke's Luol Deng, who left school early and became the seventh player selected in the NBA draft. Paul enters the 2004-05 season as the No. 1 point guard in the conference, based on point totals from All-ACC

SCHEDULE

N15-26 Preseason NIT N22 Yale

D1 at Illinois Richmond

D13 at Temple D15 Elon D18 Texas

D22 at New Mexico D30 North Carolina A&T

J2 at Virginia 18 at Clemson J11 Maryland

J15 North Carolina J18 at Florida St. 122 at Cincinnati

at Georgia Tech J29 Miami

F2 Duke F5 at Virginia Tech F10 N.C. State

F12 Florida St F15 at Miami F20 at Duke

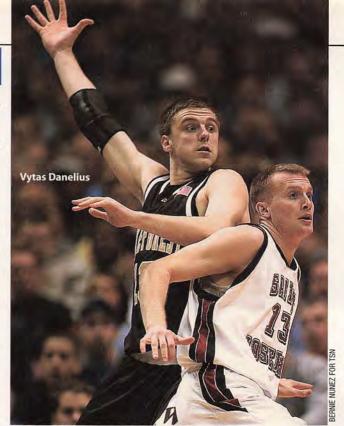
F23 Longwood F27 Virginia

M2 Georgia Tech M6 at N.C. State

balloting in which he trailed only Duke senior Chris Duhon. Paul is extremely quick and takes care of the basketball. Justin Gray, a first-team all-conference choice, is held in similar regard among the ACC's top shooting guards and joined Paul on the team that represented the United States in the Young Men's World Championships, an experience that should benefit both players and team. Wake has the luxury of a third veteran guard, Taron Downey, who started at the point two years ago and provides tremendous flexibility. Downey started 13 games last season as part of a slick-handling, three-guard alignment with Paul and Gray, but coach Skip Prosser also has the option of going big with Eric Williams, Jamaal Levy and either Danelius or Kyle Visser. The Deacons even have a natural small forward in Trent Strickland, who averaged fewer than 15 minutes over his first two seasons but can provide instant offense, as he did last year with a 22-point outburst at Texas. It will be difficult to outscore the Deacons, whose 83.5-point average was surpassed only by Arizona and Troy State last season. Wake Forest has not always finished strong, but seldom has it entered a season with the kind of experience that Prosser will enjoy this year. The team's three scholarship seniors-Downey, Levy and Danelius-are three more than it had last year.

WHAT SCARES US: With basically the same cast, the Deacons lost four of their last six games last season, although they performed respectably in the NCAA Tournament before falling to Saint Joseph's in the East Rutherford Region semifinal. Wake Forest's unsightly 299th-place ranking in scoring defense was a byproduct of the Deacons' uptempo style, but their No. 235 ranking in field goal percentage defense throws up a red flag. They are vulnerable in the post, where Williams lacks tremendous mobility and Levy is unusually thin. Neither is a feared shot blocker. Nor do the Deacons have a shutdown defender on the perimeter. Paul was named to the conference all-defensive team, but that was more a reflection on his leagueleading 84 steals than his on-ball defense. For all of his effort at getting in shape, Williams still committed more fouls last year (108) than the previous year (91). Offensively, Wake Forest will be susceptible to slumps because it relies so heavily on the 3-point shooting of Gray, Downey and Paul, but the Deacons did not score fewer than 66 points in a game last season. In three seasons under Prosser, the team has gone 13-3, 10-0 and 11-0 to start the year; now the Deacons need to find a formula for peaking at the end.

X-FACTOR: No Wake Forest player was more highly regarded prior to the 2003-04 season than Danelius, who was named preseason firstteam all-conference. And the Deacons could have a special team this year if he comes close to approaching his previous form. Danelius was slowed by tendinitis during the first month of last season, missing six of the first 10 games. When he returned, he lacked mobility and confidence. Even his free throw percentage dropped, from 78.4 as a sophomore to 64.4. At his best, Danelius is a clever inside player who also can hurt teams from the perimeter. But the combination of added strength and foot and ankle injuries has cut down on his mobility and made it difficult to defend opposing small forwards. Levy's development also has cut into Danelius' playing time, but if healthy and agile, he would give the Deacons a big boost.



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

They've got the smartest player in the nation: Chris Paul understands the flow of games, understands people. He might not be as tall or athletic as Jarrett Jack, and he might not be as explosive as Raymond Felton, but he's smarter than both of them. They may be even with some teams in terms of talent, but because of him, they're better. Paul understands when to get them the ball. For them to be as good as some are saying, Eric Williams must get better. If he does, they're a legitimate national championship contender. He's the missing piece.

DEMON DEACONS DATA

Coach: Skip Prosser (67-29, 3 years; 232-107 overall, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 5-8).

Assistant coaches: Jeff Battle (3 years), Dino Gaudio (3).

2003-04 record: 21-10. ACC: 9-7/T3rd. Lost to Saint Joseph's in NCAA East Rutherford Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 2003.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2000.

Site: Winston-Salem, N.C. Website: www.wakeforestsports.com

Home court: Lawrence Joel Coliseum (14,665).

ROSTER

Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
13	F	Vytas Danelius	6-9/228	Sr	5.9	4.4	0.4	35.9	64.4	37.0
4	G	Taron Downey*	6-2/180	Sr.	10.2	2.3	2.9	47.1	83.8	38.9
0	F	Chris Ellis	6-9/265	Jr.	1.4	1.4	0.3	38.1	85.7	_
1	G	Justin Gray*	6-2/185	Jr.	17.0	3.2	2.8	41.0	79.5	37.9
2	G	Jeremy Ingram	6-3/185	So.	1.6	0.8	0.8	33.3	-	42.9
23	G	Richard Joyce	6-5/200	Jr.	3.4	0.8	0.5	42.9	87.5	20.0
10	F	Jamaal Levy*	6-9/180	Sr.	10.3	8.4	1.5	53.8	60.4	30.3
3	G	Chris Paul*	6-0/168	So.	14.8	3.3	5.9	49.6	84.3	46.5
11	F	Cameron Stanley	6-7/200	Fr.	Suffe	red a k	nee inj	ury durir	ng his se	nior yea
33	F	Trent Strickland	6-5/200	Jr.	6.4	3.4	0.7	48.2	54.5	38.2
55	C	Kyle Visser	6-11/224	So.	4.6	2.6	0.1	53.8	52.2	_
31	C	Eric Williams*	6-9/275	Jr.	12.4	5.6	0.6	54.6	68.2	_
(E)	Y LO	SSES								
os.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Too	ld Hendley	6-9/213	2.2	1.	7	0.3	56.5	72.7	33.3

National rank 3

th Car<u>olina</u>

WHAT WE LIKE: One of the positives in an unfulfilling 2003-04 season was that none of the Tar Heels' marquee players performed well enough to turn professional. As a result, Carolina enters the season with the reigning ACC scoring champion (Rashad McCants), rebounding champion (Sean May) and assist champion (Raymond Felton). It also boasts a future Hall of Fame coach in Roy Williams, a 1,000-point career scorer in Jawad Williams, a respected defensive stopper in Jackie Manuel and another veteran, Melvin Scott, who

SCHEDULE

N19 Santa Clara at Oakland N22-24 Maui Invitational N28 USC D1 at Indiana D4 Kentucky D12 Lovola (III.) D19 at Virginia Tech D21 Vermont D28 UNC Wilmington Cleveland St William & Mary 12

18 Maryland Georgia Tech 112 J15 at Wake Forest 119 at Clemson J22 Miami at Virginia

F3 N.C. State at Florida St. F6 F9 at Duke F13 at Connecticut

Virginia F19 Clemson at N.C. State F22 F27 at Maryland Florida St.

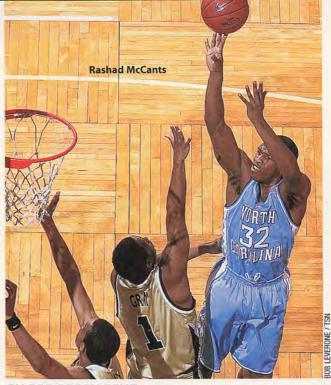
F16

M6 Duke started 27 games. In short, the Tar Heels are loaded. Their first seven players return, including athletic one-time football recruit David Noel, and they've added one of the best freshman big men in the country, 6-9 Marvin Williams. Experience and youth no longer are issues for a team that has three seniors and four juniors as its top seven returnees. No ACC team has more firepower than the Tar Heels, who posted four of the ACC's five 100-point-plus games last year. Improved conditioning will benefit May, who was hardly a bust last season when he ranked among the top seven conference players in scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage and blocked shots. He could be dominant in a league that isn't brimming with quality big men. Recruit Quentin Thomas and sophomore transfer Wes Miller should give Felton the occasional breather that will make him even more effective at the end of games. Outside of Felton, there wasn't a dependable ballhandler on last year's squad.

WHAT SCARES US: If the Tar Heels have so much talent, how did they finish .500 (8-8) in the ACC after going 6-10 with many of the same players in 2002-03? If things are to change, Carolina must prove first, that it knows how to play defense and second, that it's interested in playing defense. Williams needs

to get through to McCants, who was still the same one-dimensional scorer last year when he was the leading vote-getter for the all-conference team as he was when he was a freshman. Attitude issues were cited when McCants was cut from tryouts for the United States team for the Young Men's World Championships, and maybe time is running out for him to prove he's a team player. Felton, too, needs to reestablish himself after a sophomore year in which he shot only 31.2 percent on 3-pointers. He was the 12th-leading vote-getter for the allconference team, one spot behind Wake Forest's Chris Paul, who in many eyes has supplanted Felton as the ACC's top point guard. Jawad Williams shot 30.5 percent on 3-pointers and it might be time for the Tar Heels to have more of an inside-out emphasis. If the conditioning program isn't successful and May returns in the 260-pound range, he could be an injury waiting to happen. Also, May is not a dominant shot blocker, another element of the Tar Heels' defense that could leave them vulnerable against prospective nonconference opponents like last season's NCAA Tournament conqueror, Texas.

X-FACTOR: North Carolina isn't the only ACC team with depth problems. There are similarities with state neighbor Duke in that both the Tar Heels and Blue Devils lost prize recruits to the NBA-J.R. Smith for Carolina and Shaun Livingston for Duke. On top of that, the Tar Heels withdrew their scholarship offer to JamesOn Curry, a prolific in-state scorer who faced felony charges after being charged in a drug raid. The addition of Smith and Curry, who eventually landed at Oklahoma State, would have given Williams the bench that Carolina has lacked for much of the decade. In 2003-04, Carolina's seventh man, Manuel, played 20.7 minutes per game and eighth man Justin Bohlander averaged 7.4, a figure inflated by substantial early season minutes. If nobody gets injured this year, nine players, including Marvin Williams and Thomas, should be enough to fuel Williams' high-octane style. However, the Tar Heels saw what a serious toll the injury to Noel took last year. Conditioning could be critical.



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

They're very experienced, and they're hungry. Roy Williams is going to come in with a chip on their shoulder, and he'll have a whole new philosophy of how to deal with all these egos because he's dealt with them all summer with the U.S. Olympic team. Even with the ego and the negative things he brings to the table, Rashad McCants does produce. These players know him. They know what to expect, when he'll take a shot and when he won't. Marvin Williams helps them tremendously with depth. They didn't have that last year.

TAR HEELS DATA

Coach: Roy Williams (19-11, 1 year; 437-112 overall, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 35-15).

Assistant coaches: Joe Holladay (1 year), Steve Robinson (1), C.B. McGrath

2003-04 record: 19-11. ACC: 8-8/5th. Lost to Texas in NCAA Atlanta Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie) Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Chapel Hill, N.C. Website: www.tarheelblue.com Home court: Dean E. Smith Center (21,800).

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
30	F	Justin Bohlander	6-8/200	So.	1.2	1.1	0.3	31.8	61.5	_
2	G	Raymond Felton*	6-1/194	Jr.	11.5	4.0	7.1	42.0	81.0	31.2
25	(Damion Grant	6-11/262	Jr.	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	_	-
0	G	Jesse Holley	6-3/190	So.	0.7	0.6	0.2	40.0	50.0	0.0
35	F	C.J. Hooker	6-2/184	Sr.	0.4	0.7	0.2	40.0	0.0	-
5	G/F	Jackie Manuel	6-5/198	Sr.	6.5	3.3	1.8	55.9	48.3	20.0
42	F/C	Sean May*	6-9/260	Jr.	15.2	9.8	1.4	46.3	68.9	0.0
32	G/F	Rashad McCants*	6-4/207	Jr.	20.0	4.6	2.2	47.9	74.8	40.8
22	G	Wes Miller	5-11/186	So.	Trans	fer from	m Jame	s Madiso	n.	
34	F	David Noel	6-6/230	Jr.	5.4	4.9	1.5	56.2	62.2	16.7
41	F	Byron Sanders	6-9/228	Jr.	0.5	1.0	0.1	36.4	45.5	-
1	G	Melvin Scott*	6-2/190	Sr.	9.9	3.0	2.7	40.4	70.1	37.3
3	F	Reyshawn Terry	6-8/214	So.	1.6	0.8	0.2	43.3	54.2	20.0
11	G	Quentin Thomas	6-3/182	Fr.	Will h	elp at	point g	uard.		
21	F	Jawad Williams*	6-9/223	Sr.	12.6	5.4	1.4	45.8	72.4	30.5
24	F	Marvin Williams	6-9/225	Fr.	Good	athle	te who	will hel	p on the	boards
KEY	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Georgia Tech

WHAT WE LIKE: This year, the Yellow Jackets would like to see how far they can get with a healthy B.J. Elder, whose sprained ankle severely limited his productivity in the Final Four, keeping him out of the semifinal and contributing to a 4-for-15 night in the final. Elder, whose reputation after his first two seasons was that he faded late in the year, came back for the 2003-04 season in the best shape of his career and became a second-team all-conference player. Elder can be a scoring machine, as evidenced by his 36- and 30-point games

SCHEDULE

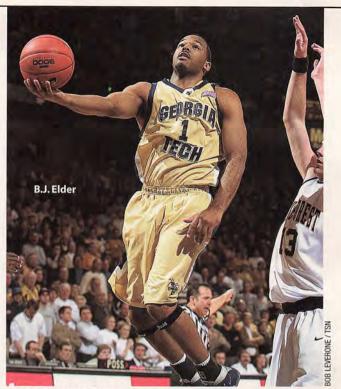
- N19 Alabama St. N22 at Illinois-Chicago Arkansas-Little Rock
- N30 Michigan Georgia DS.
- D11 Air Force D15 James Madison Charleston Southern
- D28 Lafavette
- 11 at Kansas 16 Miami
- Virginia 112 at North Carolina
- 116 at N.C. State
- 122 Virginia Tech J27 Wake Forest
- J30 at Maryland
- F2 Florida St FS
- at Duke F8 at Clemson
- F13 N.C. State
- F20 at Florida St. F23 Duke
- F26 at Miami
- at Wake Forest
- Clemson

against Clemson and North Carolina, respectively. And he's equally dangerous whether pulling up from outside or putting the ball on the floor. Plus, he's a 78 percent free throw shooter. Tech's other representative on the allconference squad, third-teamer Jarrett Jack, made great strides as a sophomore and might have been the Yellow Jackets' best player in the postseason. More of a scoring guard coming out of high school, Jack quickly learned the nuances of the point and is willing to be a setup man for a perimeter group that includes Elder, Isma'il Muhammad and Will Bynum. Bynum, a transfer from Arizona, was a little rusty after gaining his eligibility at midyear but showed he can be an explosive scorer capable of reining in his game when asked to take over for Jack. Muhammad, of course, is a high-flying dunker, a SportsCenter highlight waiting to happen. He, too, can take over a game. What will separate the Yellow Jackets from most of their opponents is 7-1, 250-pound Australian Luke Schenscher, a one-time afterthought whose development as a sophomore enabled Tech fans to forget about one-year Yellow Jacket and NBA lottery pick Chris Bosh. It is not far-fetched to talk about Schenscher, a late cut from the Australian Olympic Team, as a firstround draft pick. He has an array of low-post moves to go along with a nifty hook shot, and he's also a good

passer. Schenscher is athletic enough to run the floor, but he needs to add bulk and get stronger.

WHAT SCARES US: Marvin Lewis went straight from the Final Four to the business sector, but it's not unreasonable to think the Yellow Jackets will miss him. Georgia Tech owed its 67-65 regional final victory over Oklahoma State to Lewis hitting five of his first six 3-pointers. In fact, of the five Tech players who had 30-plus 3-point field goals, two are gone-Lewis and Clarence Moore, he of the wild hair and exotic lefthanded game. Only Elder would qualify as a prolific 3-point shooter and, while Jack and Bynum will hoist a few, they are scorers more than shooters. Schenscher's height enabled the Yellow Jackets to pair him with four quick players last year, but Georgia Tech was a deceptively poor rebounding team (eighth in the ACC) and that is unlikely to change. Muhammad, for all of his leaping ability, couldn't outrebound Jack. Coach Paul Hewitt and his staff see a lot of potential in Theodis Tarver but seem unwilling to commit to playing him with Schenscher, or for substantial minutes. Although Schenscher has shown a propensity for foul trouble (his 111 personals ranked second in the ACC last year), Tarver played only 8.8 minutes per game.

X-FACTORS: Few of Georgia Tech's players arrived in Atlanta with better credentials than 6-7 forward Anthony McHenry, who handles the ball so well he once was projected to play the point. McHenry was something of a good luck charm last year when he averaged only 3.4 points despite starting 32 of 38 games. He is a good defender and willing rebounder who does a lot of the dirty work, and players of his description often bow out in style. He is one of only six returning Yellow Jackets who played as many as 300 minutes last year, so his playing time should rise. Georgia Tech will need help from a talented freshman class if it is to have any bench. Perimeter players like Zam "Buck" Fredrick may find playing time scarce, but Ra'Sean Dickey will have ample opportunity to create a role for himself.



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

They're not going to be a surprise anymore. Now it's how they handle being the hunted. Paul Hewitt did a great job selling them on nobody believes in them, and he has to sell that for another year. Their backups in the post weren't strong; once Luke Schenscher went out of a game, they were in trouble. If you can get to their bench, they struggle. If Jarrett Jack is out, they have to go to Will Bynum, and it's a different team. They win with their style, funneling everybody to Schenscher, and he blocks shots. If he's not there, it's a different style.

YELLOW JACKETS DATA

Coach: Paul Hewitt (76-54, 4 years; 142-81 overall, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 5-3).

Assistant coaches: Willie Reese (5 years), Cliff Warren (4); Peter Zaharis

2003-04 record: 28-10. ACC: 9-7/T3rd. Lost to Connecticut in national

Last regular-season title: 1996.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Atlanta. Website: www.ramblinwreck.com Home court: Alexander Memorial Coliseum (9,191).

ROSTER

No.	Pos	. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
11	G	Will Bynum	6-0/185	Sr.	9.6	2.2	2.5	41.3	76.7	35.1
4	F	Ra'Sean Dickey	6-9/245	Fr.	Will b	olster	the tea	m's rebo	unding.	
1	G	B.J. Elder*	6-4/218	Sr.	14.9	2.8	1.4	41.5	78.0	37.4
35	G	Zam Fredrick	6-1/215	Fr.	Stron	g play	er bring	s neede	d shootii	ng touch.
3	G	Jarrett Jack*	6-3/198	Jr.	12.5	4.9	5.6	45.6	80.2	31.6
14	G	Keith Jones	6-2/180	Fr.	Walk-	on w	ho redsl	hirted las	t season	
55	F	Anthony McHenry*	6-7/218	Sr.	3.4	3.2	1.2	48.1	47.2	26.9
23	G	Anthony Morrow	6-6/190	Fr.	Sharp	-shoo	ter with	good at	thletic sk	tills.
2	F	Isma'il Muhammad	6-6/225	Sr.	9.3	4.7	1.4	57.0	48.1	0.0
12	C	Luke Schenscher*	7-1/250	Sr.	9.2	6.6	0.8	56.5	68.7	_
32	F	Jeremis Smith	6-7/230	Fr.	Bring	s muc	h-need	ed heigh	t, bulk.	
44	F	Theodis Tarver	6-9/245	Jr.	1.3	1.8	0.1	36.4	60.0	-
5	G	Mario West	6-4/208	So.	0.4	1.2	0.1	25.0	50.0	0.0
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Ro	bert Brooks	6-8/220	1.3	1.	5	0.1	45.5	50.0	_
G	Ma	rvin Lewis*	6-4/208	11.0	2.	8	1.4	44.0	80.0	39.8
F	Cla	rence Moore	6-5/215	5.9	4.	7	1.1	42.9	62.3	38.6

National rank 8

WHAT WE LIKE: For all of the turmoil that swirled around the program in the offseason, with players making their move to the NBA and coach Mike Krzyzewski considering likewise, Duke returns five of the top seven players from a 31-6 team—which means the talent is on hand for another run at the Final Four. In J.J. Redick, Duke boasts one of the country's most dangerous 3-point shooters, as well as a deadly free throw shooter who should be able to improve on an up-anddown sophomore year. Shelden Williams has emerged as a powerful

SCHEDULE

Tennessee-Martin N22 Davidson at Charlotte N27 UNC Greensboro N30 Michigan St. Valparaiso at Chicago D12 Toledo D14 Illinois-Chicago D18 Oklahoma at New York Clemson 15 Princeton 18 Temple at N.C. State J13

J16 at Miami at Florida St. J22 126 Maryland J30 Virginia Tech F2 at Wake Forest Georgia Tech

Virginia

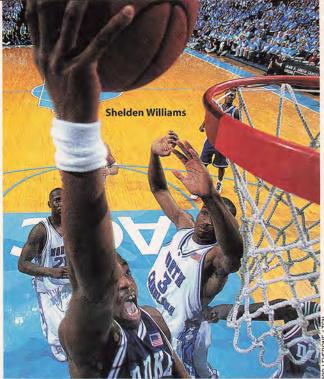
North Carolina F12 at Maryland F17 at Virginia Tech F20 Wake Forest

F23 at Georgia Tech F26 at St. John's M3. Miami M6 at North Carolina inside force. He does not have an array of offensive moves, but he's an improving scorer, ferocious rebounder, and a shot-blocking presence in the middle. Daniel Ewing often gets overlooked-he wasn't even a third-team All-ACC pick last season-but he twice has been a first-team All-ACC Tournament selection, as well as the 2002 tournament MVP. While Redick is the player most associated with the 3-point shot, it was Ewing who led the ACC in 3-point percentage. Ewing, injured for the first month of the 2003-04 season, has the slashing skills that enable him to beat people off the dribble, and he'll have the added incentive of trying to leave a mark in his senior year. Shavlik Randolph was a factor for the Blue Devils during last season's NCAA Tournament, which should give him confidence heading into this year. He has the potential to form a potent 1-2 punch with Williams inside. Sean Dockery, one of four Blue Devils starters who have been McDonald's All-Americans, has quick hands on the defensive end and will get his chance to take over the point.

WHAT SCARES US: Former point guard and 2003-04 first-team All-ACC selection Chris Duhon was an inconsistent shooter over the course of his career, but he was a lot better than Dockery, who barely made 50 percent of his free throws last season. It looked as if Duke would have ample depth at the position with signee Shaun Livingston coming aboard, but

Livingston made himself available for the NBA draft and was selected by the Clippers with the No. 4 pick overall. Another Duke signee, DeMarcus Nelson, was rated as one of the top prospects in the nation, but he is viewed as more of a combination guard than a point. The Blue Devils' only other recruit is David McClure, which leaves Duke with just eight recruited scholarship players. Depth was a problem down the stretch last year, and the Blue Devils could be an injury away from big problems. Moreover, in Williams, Randolph and Ewing, Duke has three players who each committed more than 100 fouls last year. Williams fouled out of six games and Ewing fouled out of five. Many programs would respond with a renewed commitment to zone defense. But under Krzyzewski, man-to-man has been the Blue Devils' way.

X-FACTORS: As a senior in high school in Raleigh, N.C., Randolph was rated the No. 1 prospect in the country by some services and was the object of some discussion about going directly to the NBA. Certainly, he hasn't been that kind of player for the Blue Devils, although there were signs of progress at the end of his sophomore year. Hindered by a hip condition that required surgery after his freshman year, Randolph started slowly in 2003-04 and was a fouling machine. Although Williams led the Blue Devils in fouls with 120, Randolph collected 109 while playing only 19.2 minutes per game. That's an average of 6.1 fouls every 40 minutes. On a deeper Duke team that included senior postman Nick Horvath, the Blue Devils could afford to use Randolph in spurts, especially when he wasn't contributing much in other areas. By the end of the year, Randolph's scoring had picked up, and he was shooting 59.1 percent and making two out of every three free throws. Also, he had turned into an effective shot blocker, making him a force on defense. With a little less recklessness, Randolph could turn into a serviceable player and more.



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

The leadership question needs to be answered early. Chris Duhon was a four-year starter, and that's not easy to replace. I'm not a big fan of Sean Dockery. You used to have to fear the ability, when all things fail, that the point guard could make plays. We're going to put more emphasis on the wings and double on the blocks. If Dockery can make plays, they'll be good. Without Duhon, they won't be able to withstand a J.J. Redick slump. DeMarcus Nelson can create a mismatch at the point because he has a lot of ways to score. But he's not really been a point guard.

BLUE DEVILS DATA

Coach: Mike Krzyzewski (621-181, 24 years; 694-240 overall, 29 years; NCAA Tournament 64-17; won NCAA titles in 1991, 1992 and 2001) Assistant coaches: Johnny Dawkins (6 years), Steve Wojciechowski (5), Chris Collins (4).

2003-04 record: 31-6. ACC: 13-3/1st. Lost to Connecticut in NCAA semifi-

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1995. Site: Durham, N.C. Website: www.goduke.com Home court: Cameron Indoor Stadium (9,314).

20	ST.	ER						-		
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
41	G	Patrick Davidson	6-1/180	So.	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
15	G	Sean Dockery	6-2/175	Jr.	3.0	1.4	1.3	41.1	51.5	12.0
5	G	Daniel Ewing*	6-3/180	Sr.	12.6	2.6	1.9	41.7	74.2	41.1
51	F/C	Patrick Johnson	6-9/225	Sr.	0.8	0.5	0.1	1.00	75.0	_
14	F	David McClure	6-6/215	Fr.	Will p	rovide	e neede	d depth	up front	
13	F	Lee Melchionni	6-6/205	Jr.	1.5	0.7	0.1	39.4	1.00	36.0
21	G	DeMarcus Nelson	6-4/205	Fr.	Super	talen	t is mor	e shoote	er than p	oint mar
45	G	Joe Pagliuca	6-2/185	So.	0.0	0.3	-	0.0	0.0	0.0
42	F	Shavlik Randolph	6-10/230	Jr.	7.0	4.5	0.5	59.1	66.7	20.0
4	G	J.J. Redick*	6-4/190	Jr.	15.9	3.1	1.6	42.3	95.3	39.5
23	F	Shelden Williams*	6-9/240	Jr.	12.6	8.5	0.9	58.6	69.0	40.0
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Luc	ol Deng*	6-8/220	15.1	6.	9	1.8	47.5	71.0	36.0
G	Chi	ris Duhon*	6-1/185	10.0	4.	1	6.1	44.8	72.2	30.2
F/C	Nic	k Horvath	6-10/235	1.9	1.	5	0.2	51.2	57.6	14.3

Maryland

WHAT WE LIKE: While they may have arrived prematurely, the Terps always loomed as a team of the future, and their unlikely run to the 2004 ACC tourney championship—the school's first since 1984—has done little to alter that perception. If tournament MVP John Gilchrist and backcourt partner Chris McCray, who's the most underrated player in the league, can merely stay at the same level that they reached in Greensboro, N.C., they will rank as one of the top guard tandems in the country. They are like fire and ice, and Gilchrist

SCHEDULE

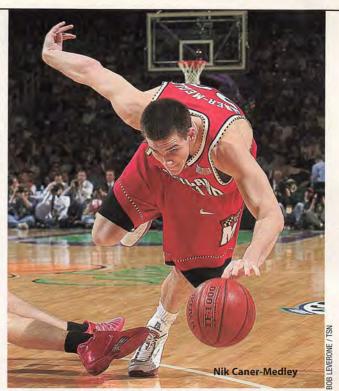
N19 Jackson St N23 Mercer N26 Memphis . at Springfield, Mass N30 at Wisconsin D4-5 BB&T Classic D12 UNC Asheville D19 Florida St. D23 American D28 Liberty Mount St. Mary's J4 at North Carolina J11 at Wake Forest J15 Temple J19 Virginia J23 N.C. State J26 at Duke J30 Georgia Tech F1 at Clemson F5 at Miami F8 Virginia Tech F12 Duke F16 at N.C. State F19 at Virginia Clemson F27 North Carolina M5 at Virginia Tech

virtually willed the Terps to the ACC title. Both have scorers' mentalities. But if it's defense the Terrapins want, they can bring D.J. Strawberry off the bench. In fact, the Terps are loaded at guard with the likes of Mike Jones, the highest rated of Maryland's 2002-03 signees and a potential offensive dynamo who is on the cusp of blossoming. When consistency became a problem for post man Jamar Smith late in the 2003-04 season, coach Gary Williams turned increasingly to freshmen Ekene Ibekwe and Hassan Fofana, with promising results. That experience should help them anchor a frontcourt that includes returning starters Nik Caner-Medley and Travis Garrison. Both combine an ability to bang on the inside with the range to hit outside jump shots. It's almost scary to think how good Caner-Medley, an explosive leaper with a streaky shooting touch, could be. Garrison was a much-improved player in the postseason, displaying little of the passiveness that had plagued him previously. Look for Williams to employ three-guard formations frequently in an effort to play the 94-foot game that he always has preferred.

WHAT SCARES US: The Terrapins went through a rough stretch in January and February last year when they lost eight of 11 games, and there may be more growing pains ahead. With the departure of Smith, Maryland

does not have a player who averaged more than Garrison's 5.2 rebounds. And most of the big men are atrocious free throw shooters. Maryland, in fact, shot only 63.1 percent from the line, which ranked them 306th in a field of 326 Division I teams. It wasn't a major factor in the ACC tournament, where the Terps were trailing most of the time and used their depth to outlast opponents. But this year, there will be more of a priority on protecting leads. In fact, Maryland doesn't have great shooters, having ranked seventh in the ACC in 3-point percentage and eighth in 3-point field goals per game. For most of the 2003-04 season, Maryland was an ordinary team, uncertain of an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament until it rallied from an 11-point second-half deficit to defeat Virginia in the final regular-season game. At that, the Terps finished sixth in the league at 7-9. The ACC is strong enough to send six teams to the NCAA Tournament this year, but Maryland does not have the frontline talent of a North Carolina or a Duke, although the Terps might have better depth. If Maryland has to turn up the intensity for three days in March again, that might be too late.

X-FACTOR: Ibekwe, a Californian with Nigerian roots, led the Terps in blocked shots as a freshman, even though he played fewer than 14 minutes per game. He also averaged 3.9 rebounds, meaning that for every 40 minutes he played, his average computed to 11.4. At 6-10 and 290 pounds, Fofana is less likely to be pushed around, but Ibekwe is more skilled and better suited to Williams' running game. He is prone to turnovers but no more so than Smith, and he demonstrates good shot selection, as evidenced by his .504 field goal percentage. Ibekwe has the ability to score in transition and shooting range that makes him a dangerous 3-point threat. Ibekwe committed fouls at an alarming rate, 6.8 every 40 minutes, but that problem should improve as he learns the intricacies of shot blocking. Besides, with Fofana waiting in reserve, the Terps can afford to give him a little more freedom.



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

There are a lot of questions. Will Travis Garrison step up and be what he was billed to be? In our league, it's like the NBA—you can't win with one horse. John Gilchrist is a star; the jury is out on the rest. There are such great coaches in this league, if you don't have a second star, they will game-plan you to death. Garrison can shoot the ball. Nik Caner-Medley had a disappointing year and has to bounce back. He was asked to do more last season, and he didn't step up. To match the elite teams, they have to find that other guy.

TERRAPINS DATA

Coach: Gary Williams (315-165, 15 years; 522-293 overall, 26 years; NCAA Tournament 26-13; won NCAA title in 2002).

Assistant coaches: Dave Dickerson (8 years), Mike Lonergan (1st), Keith Booth (1st).

2003-04 record: 20-12. ACC: 7-9/6th. Lost to Syracuse in NCAA Phoenix Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2002.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1993. Site: College Park, Md. Website: www.umterps.com Home court: Comcast Center (17,950).

DOSTED

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pre	ojected 2004	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
31	(Will Bowers	7-1/245	So.	0.8	1.2	0.2	30.8	61.5	-
22	F	Nik Caner-Medley*	6-8/233	Jr.	12.2	4.7	1.7	43.3	65.7	31.3
54	F/C	Hassan Fofana	6-10/290	So.	1.4	1.7	0.1	32.6	44.0	-
4	F	Travis Garrison*	6-8/236	Jr.	7.8	5.2	0.7	41.4	72.9	35.7
11	G	John Gilchrist*	6-3/199	Jr.	15.4	4.5	5.0	47.4	70.2	38.4
15	F	James Gist	6-8/215	Fr.	Quick	post	player v	vho's a g	reat shot	blocker
21	F	Mike Grinnon	6-6/211	Sr.	0.5	1.0	0.5	33.3	66.7	0.0
20	F	Darien Henry	6-6/202	Sr.	0.4	0.2	0.0	50.0	_	-
25	F	Ekene Ibekwe	6-9/211	So.	4.9	3.9	3.1	50.4	51.6	27.3
23	G	Mike Jones	6-5/196	So.	4.9	1.9	0.5	39.1	76.1	40.3
12	G	Sterling Ledbetter	6-4/195	Jr.	Pass-	first g	uard av	eraged 7	.1 apg ir	JC.
13	G	Chris McCray*	6-5/180	Jr.	11.0	3.8	2.8	44.4	82.2	30.7
5	G	D.J. Strawberry	6-5/183	So.	6.2	2.8	1.3	48.9	52.6	27.3
KEY	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nai	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F/C	Jan	nar Smith*	6-9/239	13.1	8.	.8	1.2	42.1	47.2	29.4

National rank 22

orth Carolina State

WHAT WE LIKE: In a climate where few great players stay at a school four years, the Wolfpack's Julius Hodge has the opportunity to become the conference's first repeat player of the year since Wake Forest's Tim Duncan in 1996-97. Hodge's charm is that he defies classification. He isn't really a point guard, shooting guard or small

SCHEDULE

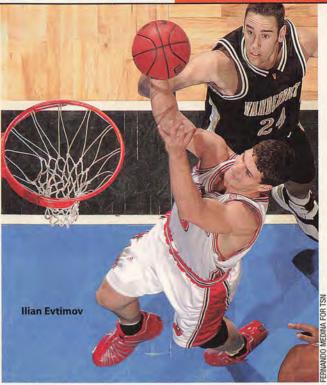
- N17-19 BCA Invitational N26 Campbell N29 Purdue D5 Manhattan D11 Liberty
- D15 Louisiana-Lafayette D19 at Washington D21 at Brigham Young
- D28-30 Holiday Festival West Virginia at Miami
- J13 Duke J16 Georgia Tech J19 at Virginia Tech
- J23 at Maryland J26 Florida St 129 at Clemson
- at North Carolina F3 F5 Virginia F10 at Wake Forest
- F13 at Georgia Tech F16 Maryland
- F22 North Carolina F26 Virginia Tech
- M2 at Virginia Wake Forest

forward, but he can be all three. Nobody is more valuable at the end of a game or a possession. He has an assortment of moves that enable him to get to the basket and finish. And if he gets fouled, he's an 82.8 percent free throw shooter. Hodge is not a prolific 3-point shooter, but you can't leave him open—and he's always going to find the open man. Plus, a summer in the weight room has given him extra muscle that will keep opponents from pushing him around. The Wolfpack's intricate Princeton-style offense is difficult to operate under normal circumstances, but this year's team will benefit from having two solid point guards and efficient wing practitioners in Hodge and Ilian Evtimov. Last season was a struggle for Evtimov, who missed 2002-03 with a torn ACL and didn't immediately show the promise he had demonstrated at the end of his freshman year. But his fundamentals are impeccable. He also shot 87.6 percent from the line for a Wolfpack team that ranked No. 1 in Division I (79.9). In a point guard's league, N.C. State has an underrated pair in Engin Atsur, a conference all-freshman selection and member of the Turkish National Team, and Tony Bethel, a doublefigure scorer two years ago at Georgetown. There will be plenty of occasions when both are on the floor at

the same time, although Cameron Bennerman could be a worthy successor to shooting guard Scooter Sherrill. On the perimeter, N.C. State stacks up against anybody.

WHAT SCARES US: Marcus Melvin's shooting range was so unusual for a player his size (6-8, 230) that he didn't get enough credit for other aspects of his game. Melvin's rebounding (8.1 per game) will be missed. Hodge's board work is commendable, but when a 6-6 wing is your top returning rebounder, that throws up a red flag. Evtimov isn't going to outleap anybody, and returning frontcourt players Levi Watkins and Jordan Collins have never distinguished themselves on the boards. Hodge had a team-high 25 blocked shots last year-no surprise there-but no other returning N.C. State player had more than seven. The Wolfpack's top recruit is a post player, Cedric Simmons, and he might be pressed into service before he's ready. Baseball prospect Andrew Brackman is another option for a frontcourt that could be short on depth, given the injury history of Evtimov, Watkins and Collins. Long-range shooting also could be a problem. N.C. State ranked 17th in Division I in 3-point field goals per game last year, even though Melvin, at No. 9, was the only Wolfpack player among the ACC's top 10. In N.C. State's offense, the 3-pointer is encouraged, but none of the returning players are deadly shooters.

X-FACTOR: Clearly, ninth-year coach Herb Sendek has one of the conference's most talented players in Hodge. But he doesn't have one of its most talented teams. And he seldom does. Sendek, however, has emerged as one of the ACC's best coaches, and maybe its most underrated. Sendek, who did not take the Wolfpack to the NCAA Tournament for the first time until his sixth season, almost losing his job in the process, now has made three straight trips. Sendek had the courage to change his offensive scheme, with the help of assistant coach and former Ohio University coach Larry Hunter, and it still bamboozles N.C. State opponents. As late as midseason in 2003-04, there were grumblings about Sendek and his sometimes stoic manner. "He's probably done as good a job as anybody in the country," says Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, who alluded to a parade for the Wolfpack football team when he said, "They should throw a damn parade for him."



AN ACC COACH SAYS:

More than anybody, they're going to hurt from the players they lost. Marcus Melvin created one-on-one opportunities for Ilian Evtimov and Julius Hodge that might not be there this year. Andrew Brackman can help, but you're bringing in a freshman to replace the most important piece in that offense. There's a lot of ballhandling, a lot of decision-making responsibilities. He has to knock down that 3, throw it down to the post. Jordan Collins is going to have to make shots from the center spot. It's going to be wait-and-see with both those guys.

WOLFPACK DATA

Coach: Herb Sendek (148-108, 8 years; 211-134 overall, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 3-4)

Assistant coaches: Larry Harris (8 years), Mark Phelps (8), Larry Hunter (3). 2003-04 record: 21-10. ACC: 11-5/2nd. Lost to Vanderbilt in NCAA Phoenix Region second round

Last regular-season title: 1989.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001. Site: Raleigh, N.C. Website: www.gopack.com Home court: RBC Center (19,722).

	3-04:	starter; bold names: pro	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter				-	
Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
14	G	Engin Atsur*	6-3/185	So.	8.5	2.8	2.5	44.1	66.0	38.3
13	G/F	Cameron Bennerman	6-4/199	Jr.	3.4	1.9	0.8	43.3	72.0	34.6
22	G	Tony Bethel	6-2/175	Jr.	Trans	fer fr	om Geo	rgetow	1.	
40	F	Andrew Brackman	6-10/205	Fr.	A goo	d sho	oter wh	o has gr	own qui	ckly.
32	C	Jordan Collins	6-10/232	Sr.	3.0	2.1	0.6	44.4	69.2	25.0
3	F	Ilian Evtimov*	6-7/231	Jr.	9.8	4.5	3.0	45.8	87.6	33.7
11	F/G	Gavin Grant	6-7/190	Fr.	Versa	tile at	hlete w	ho can ri	in and s	hoot.
24	G/F	Julius Hodge*	6-6/191	Sr.	18.2	6.4	3.6	50.8	82.8	36.1
33	F/C	Cedric Simmons	6-10/205	Fr.	Most	deco	rated o	f the ne	wcome	s.
34	C	Adam Simons	6-10/242	So.	1.5	1.3	0.2	42.9	100.0	100.0
21	F	Levi Watkins	6-8/227	Sr.	6.3	2.4	0.7	38.1	65.9	32.7
		222								
	-	SSES		-			de a			
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	PG .	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F/C	Ma	rcus Melvin*	6-8/230	14.3	8	.1	1.9	44.7	81.3	36.0
G	Mi	ke O'Donnell	5-11/160	2.4	0	.7	1.1	36.4	85.7	36.7
G	Sec	oter Sherrill*	6-3/186	10.4	2	.9	1.1	45.9	85.0	31.4

7. Virginia

WHAT WE LIKE: Just when it appeared Pete Gillen would lose his job, the Cavaliers won six of their last 10 games. Gillen, who has posted just two winning records in conference play, seldom has had better talent top to bottom, and freshman Sean Singletary could be a solution to the point guard problems that have plagued his teams in recent years. Slimmed-down post man Elton Brown was one of the league's most improved players. Team MVP Devin Smith, who underwent back surgery after the season, could be in top shape for the first time since arriving on campus. Guard J.R. Reynolds, a conference all-freshman selection, emerged as a go-to player who could be ready to blossom.

WHAT SCARES US: The ACC is strong, and the nonconference schedule is tough. Rebounding questions persist because the Cavaliers were outmuscled by more than five boards per game last season. And the defense has to tighten. Also, the 3-point shooting could suffer with the departures of Todd Billet, who graduated, and Derrick Byars, who transferred to Vanderbilt.

X-FACTORS: Keep a close eye on how the Cavaliers perform on the road, which has been a huge problem. Last year, Virginia went 4-9 away from home. Two years ago, the Cavaliers were 5-15. Better oncourt leadership could alleviate some of the problems and make the 100th year of Virginia basketball a success. With Singletary and sophomore T.J. Bannister, Virginia seldom has looked more solid at the point. They'll need to deftly direct traffic, limit turnovers and keep the offense rolling.

CAVALIERS DATA

Coach: Pete Gillen (104-78, 6 years; 378-206 overall, 19 years; NCAA Tournament 8-9).

Assistant coaches: Walt Fuller (6 years), Alexis Sherard (1), John Fitzpatrick (1st).

2003-04 record: 18-13. ACC: 6-10/T6th. Lost to Villanova in NIT second

Last regular-season title: 1995 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Charlottesville, Va. Website: www.virginiasports.com

Home court: University Hall (8,392).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
15	G	T.J. Bannister*	5-11/168	So.	3.6	1.6	3.0	34.4	74.6	19.0
43	F/C	Elton Brown*	6-9/251	Sr.	14.8	6.3	1.4	50.3	62.7	0.0
32	F	Jason Cain	6-9/205	So.	1.9	1.1	0.1	40.9	57.1	0.0
12	G	Billy Campbell	6-0/183	Jr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-
34	F	Jason Clark*	6-8/234	Sr.	4.5	5.1	0.5	51.7	76.7	-
23	G/F	Gary Forbes	6-6/210	So.	7.6	4.0	1.5	43.1	50.7	27.6
30	F	Adrian Joseph	6-7/200	Fr.	Has e	xcelle	nt leapi	ng abilit	y and co	urt visio
22	G	Robert Lodge	6-4/211	Jr.	0.7	0.7	0.0	-	100.0	_
55	F/C	Donte Minter	6-8/244	So.	5.6	2.6	0.2	56.0	71.7	-
02	G	J.R. Reynolds*	6-3/196	So.	9.4	1.7	2.0	44.1	75.4	38.4
44	G	Sean Singletary	5-11/175	Fr.	Loves	to pu	sh the t	empo.		
33	F	Devin Smith	6-5/239	Sr.	12.2	5.1	1.3	46.1	80.0	30.4
21	C	Tunji Soroye	6-11/215	Fr.	Athle	tic big	man is	a native	of Niger	ia.
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Todd Billet*	6-0/183	9.9	2.6	3.2	36.1	79.5	35.8
F/G	Derrick Byars	6-7/215	7.5	3.4	1.2	46.7	68.5	40.3
G	Majestic Mapp	6-2/184	1.6	0.9	0.8	27.7	45.5	20.0

SCHEDULE

N21 N24	Arizona Appalachian St.	D3	at Richmond, Va.	D23 J2	Loyola Marymount Wake Forest	J12 J16	Miami at Duke	J27 J29	at Virginia Tech North Carolina	F12 F16	Virginia Tech at North Carolina	M2	at Wake Forest N.C. State at Florida St.
N28	Richmond	D6	at Iowa St.	J5	Western Kentucky	J19	at Maryland	F5	at N.C. State	F19	Maryland		

8. Florida State

WHAT WE LIKE: After five straight losing seasons, the Seminoles showed last year they are on the upswing. Guard Von Wafer has a build and skills similar to that of second-round NBA draft pick Tim Pickett, and few Florida State signees have been more celebrated. Another player to watch is junior college transfer Antonio Griffin. The offense should look inside more this year with the development of 6-10 center Alexander Johnson, a first-team conference all-freshman selection. Forward Adam Waleskowski is one of the league's most underrated players.

WHAT SCARES US: Pickett's departure hurts. In addition to his offensive skills, he was a stout defender. Wafer didn't live up to his press clippings, and Anthony Richardson, another run-jump athlete, seems to wander in and out of Leonard Hamilton's doghouse. Point guard Todd Galloway doesn't have the distributing ability of departed Nate Johnson and will be challenged by freshmen Jason Rich, Isaiah Swann and Ralph Mims, who was Mr. Basketball in Maine.

X-FACTOR: Although forward Diego Romero spent considerable time in the news last year, it wasn't because of his on-court exploits. Romero, a former member of the Argentinian National junior team, was held out of action until the NCAA ruled him eligible January 11. Florida State subsequently announced Romero would redshirt, giving him two years of eligibility. A former soccer player, he has the kind of shooting range that will enable him to move to different positions and complement Johnson.

SEMINOLES DATA

Coach: Leonard Hamilton (33-29, 2 years; 233-239 overall, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 3-3).

Assistant coaches: Stan Jones (2 years), Mike Jaskulski (2), Tony Sheals (2). 2003-04 record: 19-14. ACC: 6-10/T7th. Lost to lowa State in NIT second round.

Last regular-season title: 1991 (Metro).

Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Tallahassee, Fla. Website: www.seminoles.com

Home court: Tallahassee Leon County Civic Center (12,200).

ROSTER

	J I	LN									
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 200	4-05 st	arter						Ī
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
2	F	Antonio Griffin	6-6/210	Jr.	JC tra	ansfer	is dang	erous off	the drib	ble.	
4	G	Todd Galloway	5-11/178	Jr.	3.2	1.4	2.2	34.4	68.6	25.6	
41	C	Jerome Habel	6-10/205	Fr.	Block	ced 21	shots in	n one gar	me last s	eason.	
32	F	Alexander Johnson	* 6-10/250	So.	9.5	4.2	0.8	55.1	67.5	0.0	
10	G	Ralph Mims	6-2/200	Fr.	Nam	ed Ma	ine's Mr	Basketb	all as a s	enior.	
54	F	Anthony Richardson	6-7/205	Sr.	7.3	3.6	1.0	43.3	81.5	30.4	
21	G	Jason Rich	6-3/185	Fr.	Excel	s at cr	eating h	nis own s	hot.		
25	F	Diego Romero	6-10/240	Jr.	Arge	ntine	native	redshirt	ed in 20	03-04.	
3	G	Isaiah Swann	6-1/197	Fr.	Stron	ng sco	orer wh	o sees t	he floor	well.	
12	F	Al Thornton	6-7/208	So.	2.9	1.8	0.2	51.7	50.0	42.9	
22	G	Von Wafer	6-5/210	So.	7.9	1.9	1.1	36.9	60.0	32.6	
51	F	Adam Waleskowski	6-8/240	Sr.	6.8	5.4	1.2	46.9	71.2	40.4	
20	G/F	Andrew Wilson*	6-6/205	Jr.	4.1	2.0	0.8	39.0	71.4	39.4	
KE	Y LC	SSES									
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Na	te Johnson*	6-3/183	5.3	2	.3	3.8	43.9	55.0	42.0	
F	Mi	chael Joiner*	6-7/238	6.2	3	.7	1.5	48.2	67.6	33.8	
(Mil	ke Mathews	6-10/245	2.0	1	.8	0.2	37.1	61.9	_	
G	Tin	Pickett*	6-4/207	16.5	1	5	21	13.3	75.0	40.7	

SCHEDULE

DOLLEDOLL						
N19 Texas Southern	D12 Florida International	D23 Stetson	J8 Virginia Tech	J22 Duke	F9 at Virginia	F22 Miami
N22-28 Corpus Christi Chal.	D16 South Alabama	D30 LSU	J12 Clemson	J26 at N.C. State	F12 at Wake Forest	F27 at Clemson
N30 at Minnesota	D19 at Maryland	at New Orleans	J15 at Miami	F2 at Georgia Tech	F15 at Massachusetts	M3 at North Carolina
D4 at Mississippi	D21 Jacksonville	J2 Florida	J18 Wake Forest	F6 North Carolina	F20 Georgia Tech	M6 Virginia

9. Clemson

WHAT WE LIKE: Clemson's 10-18 record and ninth-place conference finish did little to diminish the reputation of Oliver Purnell, who followed his first year as Tigers' coach by assisting Olympic coach Larry Brown. Purnell has a history of turning around programs and has enjoyed some early recruiting success. Fortunately, he will get one more year out of 6-9 Sharrod Ford, an athletic post man who could play for anybody in the league. Vernon Hamilton had an up-and-down freshman season at point guard, but he does provide experience on the perimeter along with double-figure scorer Shawan Robinson. Hamilton will get a challenge from freshman signees Cliff Hammonds and Troy Mathis.

WHAT SCARES US: The development of Robinson and Hamilton contributed to the departure of guard Chey Christie, who received fewer minutes but still offered a scoring option for a team lacking firepower. Christie will finish his career at South Alabama, and it could be argued the Tigers have had too many Sun Belt-caliber players. Clemson's two remaining scholarship seniors are Ford and Olu Babalola, who is built like Charles Barkley but tries to play like Michael Jordan. There's no way Babalola should be taking 91 3-pointers while shooting 29.7 percent. Freshman Cheyenne Moore is a more natural 3-point man.

X-FACTOR: Akin Akingbala averaged only 17.5 minutes last season, but his 490 total minutes were a big increase over the 65 he played as a freshman. Akingbala, a 6-9, 220-pounder from Lagos, Nigeria, was selected Clemson's most improved player after a season in which he averaged one rebound every 3.8 minutes.

TIGERS DATA

Coach: Oliver Purnell (10-18, 1 year; 266-209 overall, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Assistant coaches: Ron Bradley (1 years): Kevin Nickleberry (1), Frank

2003-04 record: 10-18. ACC: 3-13/9th.

Last regular-season title: 1990. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Clemson, S.C. Website: www.clemsontigers.com

Home court: Littlejohn Coliseum (10,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
33	F	Akin Akingbala	6-9/220	Jr.	4.8	4.6	0.3	60.6	50.0	_
4	C	Steve Allen	6-10/230	Jr.	0.8	1.0	0.0	31.3	57.1	-
12	F	Olu Babalola*	6-6/255	Sr.	9.0	4.6	2.0	35.5	75.3	29.7
5	F	Sharrod Ford*	6-9/220	Sr.	11.9	7.2	0.6	53.7	62.9	0.0
3	G	Vernon Hamilton*	6-0/190	So.	7.3	3.7	3.3	38.5	52.4	33.3
25	G	Cliff Hammonds	6-3/175	Fr.	Well-	round	ed athle	ete who	can score	2.
21	G	Jimmy Hudson	6-4/195	So.	0.4	0.3	0.3	11.8	50.0	14.3
20	G	Troy Mathis	6-0/200	Fr.	Will b	e poir	nt guard	of the f	uture.	
44	F	James Mays	6-9/215	Fr.	Exped	ted to	offer in	nmediat	e help.	
15	F	Cheyenne Moore	6-6/190	Fr.	Versa	tile at	hlete is	a slam d	unk artis	st.
32	F	Sam Perry	6-5/190	Fr.	Most	herald	ded of the	ne newco	omers.	
22	G	Shawan Robinson	6-2/170	Jr.	10.8	3.1	2.6	42.6	75.3	37.4
0	F	Ovarus Williams	6-4/175	Sr.	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Che	ey Christie*	6-4/178	9.1	2	.7	2.4	40.6	67.9	35.6
F	Chi	ris Hohhs*	6-7/265	77	5	4	0.9	497	54.8	

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Chey Christie*	6-4/178	9.1	2.7	2.4	40.6	67.9	35.6
F	Chris Hobbs*	6-7/265	7.7	5.4	0.9	49.7	54.8	=
F	Lamar Rice	6-7/215	4.0	2.6	0.5	33.8	47.1	22.2

SCHEDULE

N19 H	lampton	D4	at South Carolina	D21-2	23 Rainbow Classic	J12	at Florida St.	J26	at Miami	F12	Miami	F22	at Maryland
N23 U	INC Asheville	D11	Charleston Southern	D29	East Carolina	J15	at Virginia Tech	J29	N.C. State	F16	Georgia	F27	Florida St.
N26 at	t Boston College	D14	Norfolk St.	J2	at Duke	J19	North Carolina	F1	Maryland		at Greenville, S.C.	M1	Virginia Tech
D1 0	Ohio St.	D17	The Citadel	J8	Wake Forest	J22	at Virginia	F8	Georgia Tech	F19	at North Carolina	M5	at Georgia Tech

10. Virginia Tech

WHAT WE LIKE: A 15-14 record provided evidence that first-year coach Seth Greenberg is a good fit for this once-proud program. Former NBA general manager Brad Greenberg might be overqualified to be his brother's top aide, but he lends coaching firepower. Last year, Tech gave the backcourt reins to freshmen Zabian Dowdell and Jamon Gordon, and they finished 2-3 on the team in scoring. The backcourt will be further fortified by the arrival of Marquie Cooke, the Hokies' first Virginia Mr. Basketball since 1982. Young post man Coleman Collins has a bright future, and wing man Carlos Dixon, returning from a medical redshirt, looks poised for a breakout season.

WHAT SCARES US: All-Big East forward Bryant Matthews did it all, but he's gone. Philip McCandies' transfer to College of Charleston and the dismissal of recruit Justin Holt has cut into the Hokies' experience and depth. Offensively, there are serious questions about a team that finished 273rd in Division I in field-goal percentage, 288th in 3-point field goals per game and 321st in free throw percentage. The Hokies will be overmatched in a loaded ACC.

X-FACTOR: Swingman Dixon was projected as one of the top players on Greenberg's first team before it was announced he would miss the season because of a broken foot and subsequent surgery. Dixon scored nearly 1,000 points in his first three years in Blacksburg, and at one point was mentioned in the same breath as Matthews. If Dixon has anything close to the senior year that Matthews did, his redshirt year will be worth the tradeoff.

HOKIES DATA

Coach: Seth Greenberg (15-14, 1 year; 228-184 overall, 14 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2)

Assistant coaches: Brad Greenberg (1 year), Ryan Odom (1), Stacey Palmore (1st), Eric Skeeters (1st).

2003-04 record: 15-14. Big East: 7-9/T8th. Last regular-season title: 1979 (Metro). Last NCAA appearance: 1996

Site: Blacksburg, Va. Website: www.hokiesports.com

Home court: Cassell Coliseum (10,000).

DOCTED

~200	3-04 5	starter; bold names: pr	ojecteu 2004	+-03 31	arter				_	
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	F	Allen Calloway	6-8/215	Jr.	3.7	2.9	0.1	46.2	38.6	50.0
33	F	Coleman Collins*	6-8/228	So.	8.7	3.7	0.5	47.3	50.0	44.4
15	G	Marquie Cooke	6-3/200	Fr.	A phy	sical	point g	uard wi	th skills	
32	G/F	Carlos Dixon	6-7/200	Sr.	Reds	hirted	last ye	ar due t	to injury	1.
1	G	Zabian Dowdell*	6-2/195	So.	10.8	3.0	3.2	37.5	68.9	30.5
22	G	Jamon Gordon*	6-3/190	So.	9.8	4.4	4.5	36.5	67.3	28.0
3	G	Shawn Harris	6-4/220	Jr.	4.9	2.1	0.9	32.9	58.1	20.0
	F/C	Robert Krabbendam	6-11/210	Fr.	Thin	post m	an can	shoot an	d run th	e floor
2	G	Bob Ritchie	6-5/190	Jr.	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.0	75.0	0.0
24	G	Markus Sailes*	6-5/205	Jr.	4.9	3.6	2.8	38.4	60.7	29.3
5	G	Davis Stubbs	6-1/170	Fr.	Walk	on mi	ssed las	t year w	ith knee	injury
42	F	Chris Tucker	6-7/220	So.	1.1	0.3	0.0	18.2	71.4	25.0
13	G/F	Deron Washington	6-7/190	Fr.	Good	athlet	e who i	needs to	get stro	nger.
11	G/F	Wynton Witherspoon	6-7/180	Fr.	Versa	tile sh	ooter w	ith a big	wingsp	an.
KEY	LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Rry	ant Matthews*	6-7/210	22.1	8	9	1.5	47.3	66.4	36.0

3.0

6-9/225

SCHEDI II F

N19 Loyola (Md.)	D4 at VMI	D27 Morgan St.	J12 Bethune-Cookman	J27 Virginia	F8 at Maryland	F26 at N.C. State
N23 MdEastern Shore	D11 James Madison	D30 Mississippi St.	J15 Clemson	J30 at Duke	F12 at Virginia	M1 at Clemson
N28 at William & Mary	D19 North Carolina	at New Orleans	J19 N.C. State	F2 at Miami	F17 Duke	M5 Maryland
D2 Chattanooga	D22 Western Michigan	J8 at Florida St.	J22 at Georgia Tech	FS Wake Forest	F19 Miami	

Philip McCandies

51.2

40.4

11. Miami

WHAT WE LIKE: The Hurricanes were more competitive than a season-ending 1-12 skid indicated, losing four games in overtime and two others by one point. They boast a spectacular dunker and dangerous outside shooter in guard Robert Hite, who will rank among the ACC's best. Backcourt mate Guillermo Diaz isn't as prolific a 3-pointer shooter as Hite, but he is more accurate. Newcomer Raymond Hicks is the kind of widebody the Hurricanes have in abundance and might be a productive offensive player. This is an experienced team that is athletic and features a deep backcourt.

WHAT SCARES US: Darius Rice virtually was a one-man team for the Hurricanes the last two seasons, and now he's gone. So is Armondo Surratt, an assist man who was released from his scholarship and could be replaced by freshman Antoine Mayhand. Fordham transfer Glenn Batemon will be a load but his conditioning and stamina could be an issue. William Frisby and Gary Hamilton need to be forces on the glass and play tougher defense on the interior.

X-FACTOR: New coach Frank Haith was considered one of the nation's top assistants, as well as an outstanding recruiter, when he assisted Rick Barnes at Texas. Haith also has ACC ties, dating back to his days under three-time Coach of the Year Dave Odom at Wake Forest. Haith, who needs to generate low-post scoring and rebounding, never has been a head coach. Eventually, it is hoped, Haith will upgrade the Hurricanes' talent level. But it will take a masterful coaching job for him to make Miami respectable this year.

HURRICANES DATA

Coach: Frank Haith (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Jorge Fernandez (1st), Michael Hunt (1st), Barclay Radebaugh (1st).

2003-04 record: 14-16. Big East: 4-12/T12th. Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie, Big East). Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Coral Gables, Fla. Website: www.hurricanesports.com

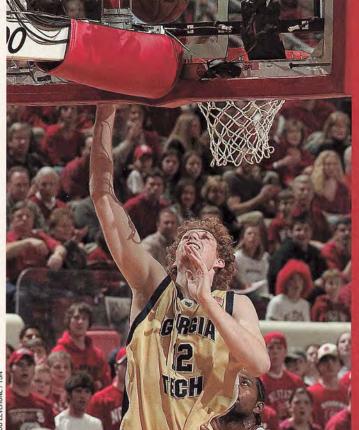
Home court: Convocation Center (7,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
55	C	Glenn Batemon	6-11/335	Jr.	Fordh	am tr	ansfer o	vercomi	ng knee	issues.
13	G	Guillermo Diaz*	6-2/186	So.	11.8	2.9	2.2	49.3	70.1	46.1
34	F	William Frisby	6-8/235	Sr.	6.3	3.5	0.4	55.1	75.5	0.0
2	F/C	Gary Hamilton	6-9/250	Jr.	3.5	4.4	0.7	60.0	54.8	_
12	G	Anthony Harris	6-2/180	So.	1.4	0.3	0.2	28.6	50.0	29.4
44	F	Raymond Hicks	6-7/232	Fr.	Big p	erime	ter play	er also ca	an go ins	ide.
22	G	Robert Hite*	6-2/190	Jr.	15.2	3.6	2.0	48.8	86.1	37.8
50	F/C	Anthony King	6-9/230	So.	1.0	2.1	0.2	53.8	30.0	-
4	G	Antoine Mayhand	6-2/200	Fr.	Great	athle	ete who	can sc	ore, crea	ate.
10	G	Brandon Okpalobi	6-2/188	Sr.	1.6	1.5	1.4	55.6	54.5	50.0
11	G	Eric Wilkins	6-4/192	Jr.	3.9	2.0	1.2	51.1	58.3	14.3
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nar	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Kar	ron Clarke	6-6/197	3.1	2.	.2	0.9	32.1	67.3	13.9
F	Roc	drigue Djahue*	6-7/250	5.1	3.	.3	0.3	42.4	76.6	0.0
F/C	Leo	nard Harden	6-9/255	2.3	1.	1	0.1	64.7	50.0	-
F	Dar	rius Rice*	6-10/222	16.9	6	.4	0.9	40.7	80.2	30.6
G	Arn	nondo Surratt*	5-11/173	5.6	1.	.6	4.0	34.6	50.0	34.4

SCHEDULE

N20 Wofford	N29 Florida Atlantic	D18 Stetson	J6 at Georgia Tech	J19 Duke	F2 Virginia Tech	F19 at Virginia Tech
N23 South Carolina St.	D4 at Florida	D23 Tennessee Tech	J9 N.C. State	J22 at North Carolina	F5 Maryland	F22 at Florida St.
N27 Xavier	D7 at Fla. International	D30 Appalachian St.	J12 at Virginia	J26 Clemson	F12 at Clemson	F26 Georgia Tech
at Miami	D12 Massachusetts	J2 Norfolk St.	J15 Florida St.	J29 at Wake Forest	F15 Wake Forest	M3 at Duke



TSNumber

5

Different leading scorers in Georgia Tech's six 2004 NCAA Tournament games. The only player who led the team in scoring more than once was Luke Schenscher. Four of those five players are back, and the Yellow Jackets return the majority of their roster as they try to make a return trip to the national title game.



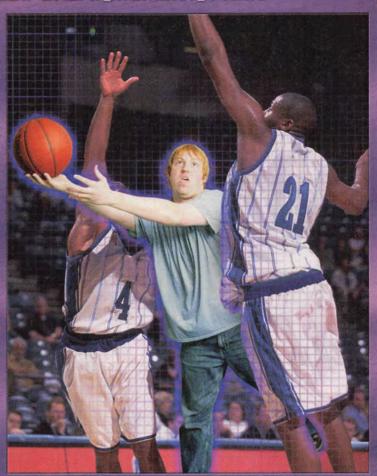
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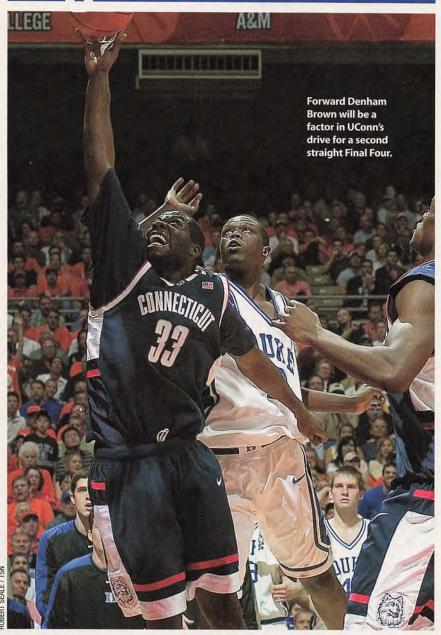
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Big East



The conference has three titles in six years and a whole lot more

or a league that only last season celebrated its 25th anniversary, the Big East Conference has spent an awful lot of time marooned in the past.

Remember the golden years of Mullin and Ewing, Carnesecca and Thompson, Villanova's title-game upset and Providence's shocking run to the Final Four? It all was great, wasn't it?

Well, wake up already.

These are the good old days.

Those who contend the Big East is past its prime haven't noticed that the league has won three of the past six NCAA championships: Connecticut in 1999 and 2004, Syracuse in 2003.

Even without Ben Gordon and Emeka Okafor, Connecticut's roster still has future first-rounders. Syracuse and Providence hung onto All-American NBA prospects Hakim Warrick and Ryan Gomes. Pittsburgh center Chris Taft is the program's most purely gifted player since Charles Smith. Notre Dame's Chris Thomas is on course to pass Troy Murphy and Adrian Dantley and finish behind only Austin Carr on the Irish career scoring list.

This should be a special year in the Big East, because the conference won't be so big. The departure of Virginia Tech and Miami for the ACC leaves just 12 members, which means more teams will play each other more often—more like a real league.

Next year, five new members arrive from Conference USA. The Big East again will be bloated and disjointed—but, if the recent trend holds true, it'll be a heck of a league.

ASCENDING: Villanova. The Wildcats know this year is pivotal. It's not now or never, because this team's best players are juniors and sophomores. But if Villanova doesn't get back into contention this year, it'll have only one season of fun before starting again. There was too much hype when the recruiting class of Allan Ray, Randy Foye, Curtis Sumpter and Jason Fraser arrived. There wasn't a program-changer in the group. But collectively, they should make a fine team.

DESCENDING: Seton Hall. Kelly Whitney and Andre Sweet remain, but so much of what made Seton Hall successful the past two seasons was the playmaking and leadership of Andre Barrett. He led the Pirates in scoring, assists, 3-pointers and steals.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Jared Dudley, F, Boston College. No team finds more undiscovered gems, and B.C. signed this one right before the 2003-04 school year. Dudley was among the most energetic offensive rebounders in the league and showed off perimeter skills that made him dangerous away from the goal.

2. Quincy Douby, G, Rutgers. Coming off the bench for most of his freshman season, Douby was an excellent deep threat. But to become great, he needs add more variety to his game and to improve as a finisher.

3. Charlie Villanueva, F, Connecticut. Villanueva is an astonishing scorer with

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Pittsburgh	13	3	31	5
Connecticut	12	4	33	6
Syracuse	11	5	23	8
Providence	11	5	20	9
Boston College	10	6	24	10
Seton Hall	10	6	21	10
Notre Dame	9	7	19	13
Rutgers	7	9	20	13
West Virginia	7	9	17	14
Virginia Tech	7	9	15	14
Villanova	6	10	18	17
Miami	4	12	14	16
Georgetown	4	12	13	15
St. John's	1	15	6	21

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- 1. Connecticut: The Huskies reloaded. Up front, top 10 prep talent Rudy Gay and Georgia Tech transfer Ed Nelson will vie for starting spots. Prep points A.J. Price and Antonio Kellogg will see lots of playing time.
- 2. St. John's: Cedric Jackson, Dexter Gray and Eugene Lawrence are quality preps. JC signees Rodney Epperson and Jermaine Maybank will be on the floor from the start of the season.
- 3. Syracuse: Big rebounder Dayshawn Wright and point Josh Wright are top 60 prospects.
- 4. Providence: Big man Randall Hanke will need some time, but DeSean White and Charlie Burch will compete for starting spots in a deep class.
- **5. Seton Hall:** Prep big man Marcus Cousin came on late, but the backcourt duo of Brian Laing and Justin Cerasoli is the key to making the Pirates better this coming winter.
- 6. Pittsburgh: Three outside talents are led by John DeGroat, who can shoot from outside or off the dribble.
- 7. Notre Dame: Arizona transfer Dennis Latimore will help right away, and Rob Kurz will add depth.
- 8. Georgetown: Much needed size comes from 7-2 Roy Hibbert and 6-9 Cornelio Guibunda.
- 9. Villanova: Point Kyle Lowry has a winner's attitude that will make the Cats better this season.
- 10. Rutgers: Ollie Bailey has the best shot at starting in this class of three high schoolers.
- 11. Boston College: A quartet of athletic frontcourt players is led by John Oates and Gordon Watt.
- 12. West Virginia: Luke Bonner is a quality big man (6-11), and shooter Mike Gansey will open things up.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

range and touch. He struggled so terribly to rebound and defend, however, that coach Jim Calhoun couldn't play him against high-level opponents. He's too good to remain on the bench, but he'll have to find a position that suits him and prove he can handle off-the-ball responsibilities.

BEST BETS:

1. Jim Calhoun will figure it out. He has too many players for too few positions. Say, wasn't that the problem last year? But then Marcus White got injured, Marcus Williams became ineligible and, suddenly, UConn had just enough guys to win a national championship. 2. Georgetown will struggle to run the

Princeton-style offense more than league members struggle to defend it. As the Hoyas gradually learn the nuances of this approach, there will be struggles. But as coach John Thompson III wins over those capable players in the program and recruits more who fit his style, his attack could become bothersome to Big East opponents. 3. Virginia Tech and Miami will be sorely missed. During the past two seasons, those two were 19-45 in Big East games. Between them, they produced four winning seasons in 17 years of conference membership. That sort of cooperation is not easily replaced.

E-mail senior writer Mike DeCourcy at decourcy@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE Team Connecticut

G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG	
39	48.0	62.3	40.2	44.7	17.5	6.0	8.1	13.6	78.8	
31	46.4	64.3	32.8	38.1	15.0	7.6	6.6	12.8	73.1	
31	45.8	71.4	34.7	36.6	13.1	6.7	3.1	13.0	71.9	
30	44.9	70.5	33.8	35.3	13.5	8.5	3.5	15.4	71.6	
29	45.0	72.0	36.2	33.7	15.7	9.1	4.9	14.9	71.0	
35	45.1	72.9	35.9	36.4	14.1	6.0	4.2	16.3	70.6	
32	42.0	72.9	35.8	35.1	13.6	5.8	4.3	10.3	70.5	
33	41.6	70.4	36.4	37.1	13.1	6.3	5.9	14.3	68.7	
34	45.5	67.9	32.6	36.0	16.0	7.1	3.0	13.4	68.0	
36	47.1	65.2	30.6	36.7	14.5	6.0	4.7	12.6	67.9	
28	41.0	71.4	34.5	33.8	13.2	10.1	3.5	15.1	67.2	
29	41.1	59.9	30.4	34.7	13.2	10.3	3.4	13.3	66.6	
31	43.3	69.5	36.0	31.2	14.5	7.4	5.7	13.0	65.6	
27	39.7	64.1	31.5	36.9	10.7	8.0	4.3	15.3	62.0	
	39 31 31 30 29 35 32 33 34 36 28 29 31	39 48.0 31 46.4 31 45.8 30 44.9 29 45.0 35 45.1 32 42.0 33 41.6 34 45.5 36 47.1 28 41.0 29 41.1 31 43.3	39 48.0 62.3 31 46.4 64.3 31 45.8 71.4 30 44.9 70.5 29 45.0 72.0 35 45.1 72.9 32 42.0 72.9 33 41.6 70.4 34 45.5 67.9 36 47.1 65.2 28 41.0 71.4 29 41.1 59.9 31 43.3 69.5	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36 47.1 65.2 30.6 28 41.0 71.4 34.5 29 41.1 59.9 30.4 31 43.3 69.5 36.0	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 36 47.1 65.2 30.6 36.7 28 41.0 71.4 34.5 33.8 29 41.1 59.9 30.4 34.7 31 43.3 69.5 36.0 31.2	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 17.5 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 15.0 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 13.1 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 13.5 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 15.7 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 14.1 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 13.6 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 13.1 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 16.0 36 47.1 65.2 30.6 36.7 14.5 28 41.0 71.4 34.5 33.8 13.2 29 41.1 59.9 30.4 34.7 13.2 31 43.3 69.5 36.0 31.2 14.5	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 17.5 6.0 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 15.0 7.6 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 13.1 6.7 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 13.5 8.5 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 15.7 9.1 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 14.1 6.0 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 13.6 5.8 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 13.1 6.3 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 16.0 7.1 36 47.1 65.2 30.6 36.7 14.5 6.0 28 41.0 71.4 34.5 33.8 13.2 10.1 29 41.1 59.9 30.4 34.7 13.2 10.3	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 17.5 6.0 8.1 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 15.0 7.6 6.6 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 13.1 6.7 3.1 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 13.5 8.5 3.5 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 15.7 9.1 4.9 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 14.1 6.0 4.2 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 13.6 5.8 4.3 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 13.1 6.3 5.9 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 16.0 7.1 3.0 36 47.1 65.2 30.6 36.7 14.5 6.0 4.7 28 41.0 71.4 34.5 33.8 13.2<	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 17.5 6.0 8.1 13.6 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 15.0 7.6 6.6 12.8 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 13.1 6.7 3.1 13.0 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 13.5 8.5 3.5 15.4 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 15.7 9.1 4.9 14.9 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 14.1 6.0 4.2 16.3 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 13.6 5.8 4.3 10.3 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 13.1 6.3 5.9 14.3 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 16.0 7.1 3.0 13.4 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.7 14.5	39 48.0 62.3 40.2 44.7 17.5 6.0 8.1 13.6 78.8 31 46.4 64.3 32.8 38.1 15.0 7.6 6.6 12.8 73.1 31 45.8 71.4 34.7 36.6 13.1 6.7 3.1 13.0 71.9 30 44.9 70.5 33.8 35.3 13.5 8.5 3.5 15.4 71.6 29 45.0 72.0 36.2 33.7 15.7 9.1 4.9 14.9 71.0 35 45.1 72.9 35.9 36.4 14.1 6.0 4.2 16.3 70.6 32 42.0 72.9 35.8 35.1 13.6 5.8 4.3 10.3 70.5 33 41.6 70.4 36.4 37.1 13.1 6.3 5.9 14.3 68.7 34 45.5 67.9 32.6 36.0 16.0 7.1

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Pittsburgh	36	38.6	66.0	30.8	31.3	11.4	5.3	2.8	12.8	56.4
Boston College	34	40.5	70.9	31.9	32.9	12.3	7.2	3.3	13.9	63.2
Connecticut	39	36.9	67.3	32.3	34.9	12.0	6.9	3.3	12.1	63.9
Providence	29	42.3	66.5	33.3	33.0	13.1	8.3	2.7	15.0	64.4
Seton Hall	31	40.3	71.7	30.5	34.2	12.1	6.0	3.6	13.1	65.4
Rutgers	33	41.4	67.1	31.2	35.8	12.5	6.6	4.6	13.8	65.5
West Virginia	31	42.6	68.3	36.5	37.2	13.5	6.9	3.3	14.1	65.8
Georgetown	28	43.6	67.7	32.3	36.9	12.9	7.9	4.9	18.8	66.0
Notre Dame	32	42.8	69.9	36.5	36.9	13.6	5.6	3.7	11.5	67.2
Syracuse	31	40.2	67.0	29.4	37.1	14.7	6.7	3.0	13.5	67.6
Virginia Tech	29	45.8	65.9	35.4	35.7	13.2	5.9	3.9	18.1	67.7
Villanova	35	41.2	69.4	33.6	33.4	13.3	8.4	3.7	13.5	68.7
Miami	30	45.2	68.0	34.1	33.9	13.6	8.1	3.7	17.1	68.9
St. John's	27	43.6	69.1	36.7	37.3	16.0	7.9	4.1	14.3	70.9

PREDICTIONS

1. Syracuse*
2. Pittsburgh*
3. Connecticut*

2. Pittsburgh* 9. Rutg
3. Connecticut* 10. We
4. Notre Dame* 11. Get

6. Boston College*
7. Seton Hall*

5. Villanova*

8. Providence 9. Rutgers 10. West Virginia 11. Georgetown 12. St. John's *NCAA tourney pick

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Gerry McNamara, Syracuse	6-2	179	Jr.
F	Hakim Warrick, Syracuse	6-8	209	Sr.
F	Ryan Gomes, Providence	6-7	240	Sr.
F	Craig Smith, Boston College	6-7	255	Jr.
F/C	Chris Taft, Pittsburgh	6-10	250	So.

SECOND TEAM

	LOITE I LITTIN			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Carl Krauser, Pittsburgh	6-2	200	Jr.
G	Chris Thomas, Notre Dame	6-1	185	Sr.
F	Charlie Villanueva, Connecticut	6-10	220	So.
F	Curtis Sumpter, Villanova	6-7	220	Jr.
F/C	Josh Boone, Connecticut	6-10	230	So.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Hakim Warrick, F, Syracuse

It's a measure of how dangerous Warrick can be that he averaged 19.8 points, 8.6 rebounds and produced 14 games of 20 or more points last season and still gave the



impression he could accomplish more. Warrick plays hard at both ends and appears committed to his team. He never has insisted on proving himself as a longrange shooter just to satisfy NBA scouts.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Rudy Gay, F, Connecticut

The only problem with Gay is finding a place for him. The Huskies still have Rashad Anderson, Denham Brown and Charlie Villanueva on the wings, and they helped win an NCAA championship. With a player as talented as Gay, Jim Calhoun will find room. Gay is a dynamic athlete with terrific ball skills and a reliable jump shot. He is better than many high schoolers who were chosen in the 2004 NBA draft.

MOST UNDERRATED

Chevon Troutman, F, Pittsburgh

Of the 21 players on the 2004 All-Big East team, none was named Troutman. Must have been a deep league, to have that many guys better than a player who shot 65.4 percent, averaged 6.2 rebounds and defended the post well enough to hold Connecticut's Emeka Okafor to an average of 12.7 points in their three meetings last season.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Allan Ray, Villanova Best playmaker: Chris Thomas, Notre Dame Best NBA prospect: Rudy Gay, Connecticut Best defender: Chevon Troutman, Pittsburgh Most versatile: Ryan Gomes, Providence

racuse

WHAT WE LIKE: The Orange showed spunk in fighting through some challenges that proved to be more imposing than defending their 2003 championship, most notably the midseason loss of point guard Billy Edelin. That forced Gerry McNamara to, in essence, play two positions at once, which was more great experience for him and for Syracuse. But with McNamara, Edelin and freshman Josh Wright all available now, Syracuse has three first-rate point guards—three more than some other top 25 teams. McNamara and Wright will be

SCHEDULE N11-19 Coaches vs. Cancel N27 at Siena D1 St. Bonaventure D4 Colgate **D7** Oklahoma St . at New York D11 Binghamton D18 Drexel D20 Cornell D22 Rice D30 Hofstra 15 at St. John's 18 Seton Hall J10 at Notre Dame J15 at Providence J18 Georgetown J22 West Virginia J24 at Rutgers at Pittsburgh F5 Notre Dame F7 Connecticut F12 at Villanova F14 Pittsburgh F19 at Boston College F23 St. John's F26 Providence

M5

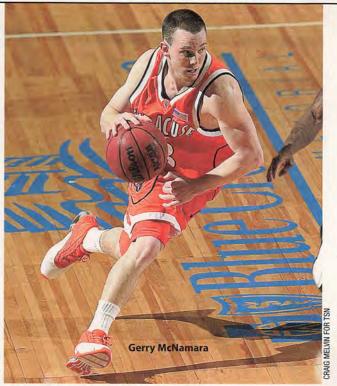
at Connecticut

an intriguing combination, because either could run the offense on a given trip and each is an outstanding shooter. McNamara has the ability to carry the team when necessary, as he did in last year's NCAA Tournament opener against BYU. Although Demetris Nichols struggled from 3-point range in his freshman year, this team has the potential to be more dangerous and versatile from the perimeter. Last season, 75 percent of the 3pointers came from McNamara. The inside game focused on forward Hakim Warrick, who averaged just short of 20 points and 10 rebounds against Big East opponents. Nobody in the conference has a player who matches up well against Warrick's length, quickness and energy. Warrick got a lot of his scores by sweeping up teammates' misses. But he still can be better as a first option. With a greater variety of threats along the perimeter, Warrick should be granted more freedom to maneuver near the goal. The frontcourt is loaded with size and athletic ability. Darryl Watkins and Terrence Roberts played little as freshmen, but any program in the Big East would take their talent. Center Craig Forth never will be a star, but he battles, clogs the lane and keeps mistakes to a minimum.

WHAT SCARES US: Although Wright represents a promising alternative, Edelin's uncertain status is a con-

cern. Having him in the lineup makes the Orange better. McNamara's accuracy declined when he no longer could expect the high-quality shots Edelin generated and had to focus much of his attention on handling the ball. The fact that none of last season's freshmen advanced comfortably into the lineup can't be dismissed. It's not like Jim Boeheim has a problem with rookies. This is the guy who rode Derrick Coleman into his first NCAA championship game and Carmelo Anthony and McNamara to his first title. For Roberts and Nichols to progress so slowly leaves open the possibility they might not be substantial contributors anytime soon. Syracuse's 2-3 zone is a valuable tool against nonleague opponents who don't see much of it, but the best Big East teams no longer are as bothered by it. The Orange have proved they can win big in the NCAA Tournament without winning the league, but high expectations could become an obstacle for this group, just as they were for UConn last season. The Orange still have not developed a consistent low-post scoring threat who can set up, demand the ball and force defensive reaction. Warrick would be even more dangerous if he posted up more consistently.

X-FACTOR: He has a championship ring, plays more than 30 minutes a game and delivers fat numbers in minor statistical categories such as points, rebounds, assists and field goal percentage. So why do we always forget about Josh Pace? He isn't a great player; he's just spectacularly good. He isn't suited to be a point guard, shooting guard or small forward—but he is suited to be all of them for brief periods of time. Even though he struggles to shoot, there isn't a player in the college game who gets more done in exchange for less recognition. When Syracuse needed energy off the bench in 2003, he delivered. When Edelin departed last season and the lineup was in flux, Pace's presence held things together. The most beautiful thing about Pace: Other than shooting free throws when he's fouled, he never tries to do anything he can't do.



A BIG EAST COACH SAYS:

They just keep bringing guys in. Hakim Warrick is, arguably, the best player in the country. The guy people forget about is Josh Wright. Josh and Gerry McNamara can play together, and that will cause problems because they're both very good shooters. There will be less pressure on Wright as a freshman point, because he's playing with somebody who can play the position. McNamara's shooting percentage was low, but more than half of his shots were 3s. Demetris Nichols will be a better shooter. They could be special.

ORANGE DATA

Coach: Jim Boeheim (676-234, 28 years; NCAA Tournament 40-22; won NCAA title in 2003).

Assistant coaches: Bernie Fine (28 years), Mike Hopkins (9), Robert Murphy (1st).

2003-04 record: 23-8. Big East: 11-5/T3rd. Lost to Alabama in NCAA Phoenix Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 2003.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002.

Site: Syracuse, N.Y. Website: www.suathletics.com

Home court: Carrier Dome (33,000)

ROSTER

Jeremy McNeil

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
35	F	Ross DiLiegro	6-8/205	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0		_	-
14	G	Billy Edelin	6-4/204	Jr.	13.8	4.2	5.2	53.0	53.5	33.3
51	C	Craig Forth*	7-0/259	Sr.	5.7	5.8	0.7	56.6	64.7	_
24	F	Matt Gorman	6-9/240	Jr.	1.7	2.0	0.3	31.6	0.0	0.0
42	G	Louie McCroskey	6-5/187	So.	3.9	2.2	1.0	35.2	45.0	22.8
3	G	Gerry McNamara*	6-2/179	Jr.	17.2	2.6	3.8	38.5	87.2	38.9
4	F	Demetris Nichols*	6-8/205	So.	4.2	2.2	0.6	34.7	44.4	23.6
5	G	Josh Pace*	6-5/195	Sr.	9.5	5.4	3.3	50.0	39.0	20.0
33	F	Terrence Roberts	6-9/221	So.	2.1	2.1	0.2	36.2	52.2	16.7
1	F	Hakim Warrick*	6-8/209	Sr.	19.8	8.6	2.6	51.2	69.2	0.0
13	C	Darryl Watkins	6-11/238	So.	1.8	2.0	0.2	36.0	16.7	-
25	F	Dayshawn Wright	6-6/245	Fr.	Physi	cal play	yer with	a long	wing spa	n.
30	G	Josh Wright	6-2/170	Fr.	Adep	t at lea	ding th	e fast br	eak.	
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
_										

2.7

75.5 51.7

6-8/255 3.0

National rank 11 BIG EAST

2. Pittsburgh

WHAT WE LIKE: There is no team with a better point-post duo than Carl Krauser and Chris Taft. That's a great place for any team to start. Krauser dominated the ball too much late last season, but he is a creative playmaker who should improve as a long-range shooter and benefit from the presence of recruit Ronald Ramon. Krauser had to play 36 minutes per game last year, even though the schedule was, as usual, loaded early with softies. Krauser is not an elite defender, but he applies solid ball pressure and picks up a reasonable number

SCHEDULE

N20	Howard
N24	Robert Morris
N27	Loyola (Md.)
D1	St. Francis (Pa.)
D4	Duquesne
D7	Memphis

... at New York D11 at Penn St. D18 Coppin St.

D23 Richmond D29 South Carolina J2 Bucknell

J5 Georgetown J8 at Rutgers J15 Seton Hall J18 at St. John's

J22 at Connecticut J29 Syracuse J31 Providence

F5 at West Virginia F8 St. John's

F12 Notre Dame F14 at Syracuse F20 at Villanova

F23 West Virginia F26 Connecticut F28 at Boston College

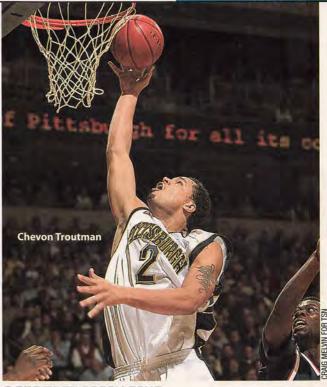
M5 at Notre Dame

of steals without excessive gambling. Taft has the potential to be a major scoring threat inside. He has a variety of moves and a soft shooting touch. For a guy who shot nearly 56 percent, he merited a lot more touches, which he's almost certain to get in 2004-05. To take full advantage, he'll have to do a better job of making free throws. One thing that makes Taft's job easier is having a rock-solid power forward next to him. From a technical standpoint, Chevon Troutman is as good as any frontcourt defender. He forces players to shoot uncomfortable shots, and Taft helps clean up those attempts. Although this team will not be as adept defensively on the perimeter as in the last couple of years, the size and depth on the front line should make it better. Troutman has accepted a smaller role in the offense, but he is skilled enough to do more. He was recruited as a small forward before discovering he was more effective inside. But that doesn't mean he can't use his ballhandling ability to create more scoring opportunities.

WHAT SCARES US: When coaches lose a player who averaged 11.7 points and 5.4 rebounds, it's usually a simple matter of finding someone who can replace that production. But it's not that simple to replace Jaron Brown. Pittsburgh cannot expect to

conjure the kind of magic Brown delivered as a defender, passer and clutch scorer. The plan is to try big Mark McCarroll at the small forward position Brown manned. McCarroll is a better shooter and will be a tough matchup for opponents who use a third guard in that spot. But such mismatches tend to favor teams that employ quickness rather than size. Going bigger eventually might force Pittsburgh to use more zone defense, which is antithetical to what made the Panthers special over the past three years. With a replacement for Julius Page also necessary, Pitt will be starting two new players on the wings, which figures to make this team less of a force defensively and to cause adjustments in the offensive approach. That's not all bad, because neither Brown nor Page was a reliable shooter by the end of their final season together. However, teams built around particular players for a long period can struggle to adjust to their absence, and there still is no guarantee this team will be able to find the basket from long range. The returning Panthers made 80 3-pointers last season; UConn's Rashad Anderson beat that himself. Pitt has to find someone from the recruiting class who can consistently make shots. It could be junior college transfer John DeGroat or freshman Keith Benjamin, although most scouts view Benjamin as a player who will need time to develop. Or the answer could be playing Krauser and Ramon in tandem.

X-FACTOR: Antonio Graves, a late recruit for last season's team, served primarily as a backup to Krauser at the point. Graves also played some shooting guard, though, and showed promise as a defender and 3-point shooter. As wide open as the competition is for playing time on the wings, Graves has the advantage of having played a year in the system, having learned from a great leader such as Brown and having been forced to perform under pressure. Graves played a small role in some big games. On this team, he could command more.



A BIG EAST COACH SAYS:

They lost two of their best defenders. Who's going to play on the wings? I don't care how good Ronald Ramon is as a point guard; unless they find somebody to score from the wings, they have a problem. John DeGroat's overrated a little bit. If they use Mark McCarroll at the 3 along with Chevon Troutman and Chris Taft—I'd love to see that. Who's going to put the ball on the floor? Can they run halfcourt offense with those three guys? I'd sit in a zone against them until the cows come home.

PANTHERS DATA

Coach: Jamie Dixon (31-5, 1 year; NCAA Tournament 2-1).

Assistant coaches: Barry Rohrssen (5 years), Pat Sandle (1), Joe Lombardi

2003-04 record: 31-5. Big East: 13-3/1st. Lost to Oklahoma State in NCAA East Rutherford Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001.

Site: Pittsburgh. Website: www.pittsburghpanthers.com

Home court: John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center (12,508).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	tarter; bold names: pr	niected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.		Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	G	Keith Benjamin	6-2/185	Fr.	A you	ıng, c	onfider	nt outsid	e shoot	er.
24	G	Marcus Bowman	6-3/180	So.	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	_	0.0
	F	John DeGroat	6-6/210	Jr.	JC red	ruit is	a tougl	n inside	resence	
3	G	Yuri Demetris	6-4/205	Sr.	0.8	0.9	0.7	25.0	58.3	17.6
22	G	Antonio Graves	6-3/180	So.	2.1	0.6	0.9	35.7	55.6	35.1
33	C	Aaron Gray	7-0/280	So.	1.7	1.5	0.4	55.0	57.1	_
14	F	Levon Kendall	6-9/220	So.	1.1	0.9	0.5	27.3	50.0	12.5
11	G	Carl Krauser*	6-2/200	Jr.	15.4	4.9	4.5	40.6	77.7	33.3
21	F	Mark McCarroll	6-10/220	Sr.	5.5	2.8	0.7	51.0	62.7	37.9
5	F	Dante Milligan	6-8/200	Fr.	Redsl	nirted	in 2003	-04.		
	G	Ronald Ramon	6-1/175	Fr.	Made	97 3-	pointer	s in 27 g	ames las	t year.
15	G	Charles Small	5-7/170	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	_
23	F/C	Chris Taft*	6-10/250	So.	10.9	7.5	1.3	55.9	54.4	-
2	F	Chevon Troutman*	6-7/236	Sr.	9.8	6.2	1.9	65.4	61.1	21.4
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G/F	Jan	on Brown*	6-4/229	11.7	5	.4	2.8	48.8	65.5	21.5
C	Tor	ee Morris	6-10/282	1.9	1	.8	0.3	57.4	40.0	-
G	Juli	ius Page*	6-3/191	11.0	2	.9	1.8	37.1	70.6	32.9

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WHAT WE LIKE: Although you might hear otherwise, these Huskies are not as talented as those who became the 2004 NCAA champions. That team featured two of the first three picks in the NBA draft. These Huskies are, however, talented enough to make a decent run at a second consecutive Final Four. What team has two more gifted offensive players than Rudy Gay and Charlie Villanueva? Now consider that UConn could afford to bring either, or both, off its bench. Gay, who might be the best pro prospect among freshmen

SCHEDULE N20 Buffalo N30 Florida International D4 Indiana D6 Northeastern D9 at Massachusetts D19 Rice D22 Central Connecticut D28 Sacred Heart D30 Quinnipiac **Boston College** J8 at Georgetown J10 at Oklahoma J15 Rutgers J17 at Seton Hall 122 Pittsburgh J25 at West Virginia 130 at Notre Dame F2 Villanova F5 St. John's at Syracuse F13 North Carolina F15 at Providence F19 at Rutgers F21 Notre Dame F26 at Pittsburgh M2 Georgetown

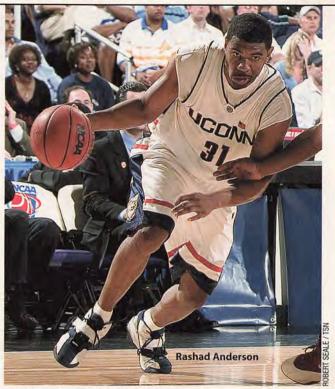
M5 Syracuse

entering Division I this season, will have to fight veterans Denham Brown and Rashad Anderson for playing time. Aware of the pending competition, Brown has worked hard to become a more consistent perimeter player. Anderson's long-range shooting made him valuable during the championship run, and he became an adequate defender when it mattered most. Villanueva will try to fight off rugged Ed Nelson, the former ACC rookie of the year who sat out last season after transferring from Georgia Tech. In the center of all this talent stands 6-10 Josh Boone, who no doubt benefited from playing alongside All-American Emeka Okafor but is too tough, bright and committed not to become a standout on his own. UConn will not expect him to become a primary option, but coach Jim Calhoun can count on him to play excellent help defense and rebound at a high level. Calhoun likes to play the running game. Last year's team could dazzle opponents with its breathtaking fast break, but it sometimes got away from it against powerful opponents who could wear the Huskies down. This team is significantly deeper and will be able to stay fresh late in games. It also will have more flexibility to attack defensively. The extraordinary ball pressure that Taliek Brown provided will be missing, as will the shot-blocking ability of Okafor. But Calhoun might be able to get away with a nine-man rotation and an increased emphasis on the

Huskies extending their defense into the passing lanes.

WHAT SCARES US: Point guard will be an issue until either sophomore Marcus Williams or freshman A.J. Price takes command of the job and turns the offense into a functional unit. The team has so many weapons, but managing access to them and facilitating their use is an essential job. UConn was limited at the point under Taliek Brown because of his shooting problems, but there were no limitations to his senior leadership and ability to supply outstanding defense. Neither replacement candidate is likely to bring those strengths to the position, but either can help make this a fluid halfcourt offensive team. These Huskies are too young to have to deal with the burden of defending a national title. There are no prominent seniors, and there are no established veterans who will be primary ballhandlers. The guys who will be expected to initiate the offense most often-Williams, Price and Gay-have played a combined 16 games in Division I.

X-FACTOR: For all the good things you hear about Villanueva, and that includes a steady stream of praise from the coaches who work with him, there still is reason to wonder if Calhoun can afford to commit to him as a full-time player. Villanueva is incredibly gifted offensively. That's beyond question. He almost averaged double-figure scoring as a freshman, even though he averaged fewer than 20 minutes per game. But he still is a liability as a rebounder and defender, and that could take time to change. Maybe that would not be a huge issue if UConn didn't have Nelson available to play in Villanueva's place. Nelson is the toughest player in the program, and he is a capable scorer who will not sit peacefully behind Villanueva. One commonly espoused proposal is to make Villanueva a small forward, but he would not be able to defend at that position. The bottom line: If Villanueva can find a place on this team, defending the Huskies will be the closest thing to impossible.



A BIG EAST COACH SAYS:

Does it ever stop? Rudy Gay and Josh Boone are phenomenal. Charlie Villanueva is going to take some big steps. And I forgot about Ed Nelson. They've got four great frontcourt guys. The concern is point guard. Taliek Brown got everybody in the right places and got them the ball. Can A.J. Price do that? He hasn't played against the best competition, and it's more just about being a freshman. I'm not saying he'll be bad; he'll have to reach the level they're used to playing at. But he's a talent. Everybody in the league would love to have him.

HUSKIES DATA

Coach: Jim Calhoun (432-165, 18 years: 680-302 overall, 32 years: NCAA Tournament 35-14; won NCAA titles in 1999 and 2004).

Assistant coaches: Tom Moore (10 years), George Blaney (3), Andre LaFleur (1st).

2003-04 record: 33-6. Big East: 12-4/2nd. Beat Georgia Tech in NCAA final. Last regular-season title: 2002.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001

Site: Storrs, Conn. Website: www.uconnhuskies.com

Home court: Harry A. Gampel Pavilion (10,167) or Hartford Civic Center (16, 294).

DOCTED

HU.	51	EH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
31	G/F	Rashad Anderson*	6-5/210	Jr.	11.2	2.9	0.8	43.7	78.5	41.0
11	F/C	Hilton Armstrong	6-10/210	Jr.	2.4	2.8	0.3	50.0	47.5	0.0
24	F	Jason Baisch	6-6/250	Sr.	0.3	0.5	0.0	14.3	50.0	_
21	F/C	Josh Boone*	6-10/230	So.	5.9	5.8	0.7	55.4	40.5	_
33	F	Denham Brown	6-5/205	Jr.	8.9	3.9	1.2	43.8	72.9	39.1
22	F	Rudy Gay	6-9/215	Fr.	One o	of nat	ion's to	p H.S. p	rospects	S.
20	G	Antonio Kellogg	6-2/185	Fr.	Tenac	ious g	uard w	ith great	range a	nd vision.
32	F	Ed Nelson	6-8/250	Jr.	Form	er ACC	rookie	of the ye	ar is elig	ible.
12	G	A.J. Price	6-0/170	Fr.	Speed	ly poi	nt guar	d who pu	its up big	points.
13	F	Ryan Thompson	6-6/215	Jr.	Skille	d pass	er reds	hirted in	2003-04	
3	F	Charlie Villanueva	6-10/220	So.	8.9	5.3	0.7	51.4	66.7	36.7
23	F	Marcus White	6-8/215	So.	2.0	2.3	0.0	60.0	28.6	-
5	G	Marcus Williams	6-2/190	So.	2.9	1.3	4.3	37.0	69.2	17.6
KE	LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nar	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tali	ek Brown*	6-1/200	6.3	3.	8	6.5	41.7	55.3	20.0
G	Ber	n Gordon*	6-2/195	18.5	4.	7	4.5	43.4	82.9	43.3
F/C	Em	eka Okafor*	6-10/252	17.6	11.	5	1.0	59.9	51.8	-

BIG EAST National rank 19

WHAT WE LIKE: He has his defects and detractors, but there's no disputing Chris Thomas is a talented player. He is capable of a 35-point explosion any time he steps on the court. Thomas is fast, elusive and skilled, and he feeds ravenously on defensive mistakes. He had 10 games of 24 or more points last season and delivered two of his most impressive performances against Big East heavyweights Connecticut and Pittsburgh. Thomas is especially dangerous when ducking behind a ball screen; opponents are forced to deal with that

5	CHEDULE
N19	Harvard
N23	IPFW
N26	Charleston Southern
D4	at Michigan
D8	at Indiana
D11	DePaul
D19	Army
D22	Marist
D28	Western Illinois
000	C . C . 1

D30 Samford J5 at Seton Hall 18 Villanova J10 Syracuse 115 St John's 119 at West Virginia J23 at Georgetown 126 at Villanova 130 Connecticut F5 at Syracuse F8 Boston College

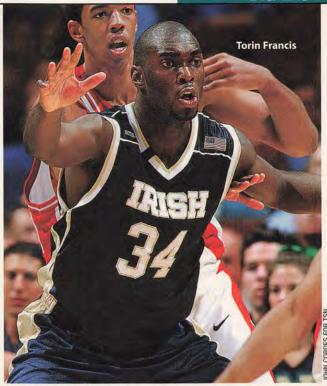
F12 at Pittsburgh F16 Georgetown F19 at Providence F21 at Connecticut F27 UCLA Rutgers M5 Pittsburgh

tactic, making the other Irish players more threatening. Thomas and backcourt partner Chris Quinn developed a better relationship as last season progressed and combined for 47 points in a victory at Syracuse. They averaged a combined 36.8 points as the Irish compiled a 9-4 record over their final 13 games. That stretch included games against six NCAA Tournament-bound teams and three NITbound opponents. The frontcourt partnership of Torin Francis and Dennis Latimore, a transfer from Arizona, should work well. Both players are skilled, dynamic athletes. Latimore has not yet played regularly in Division I, but he has considerable promise and should help occupy defenders who would prefer to gang up on Francis. Sophomore Colin Falls played a limited role in his first season but proved himself as a long-distance shooter, hitting 39.4 percent of his 3s. As he gains more playing time, the offense will become more varied and potent. In difficult circumstances, coach Mike Brey's even temperament works in the Irish's favor.

WHAT SCARES US: Always a program built around offense, Notre Dame was far too one-dimensional last season. If Thomas didn't score, there weren't enough points to win. Part of the problem

was the limited number of options available; another was the constricted number of touches for Francis. A third was that Thomas began focusing too much on his own shot and not enough on what he might do for his teammates. Any of these circumstances, or all of them, could be repeated this year. It's less likely now that Falls has a year of experience, allowing Brey to play him more with Latimore joining Francis up front. The interior game will bear watching. When Tom Timmermans was the second big man last season, the Irish did not have enough quickness on the wings to cover defensively. And when forward Jordan Cornette played, he attempted more than half his shots from 3-point range—hitting only 35.1 percent. Cornette is 6-9 and athletic; he has to play tougher along the baseline. It's also fair to wonder about Latimore's willingness to sacrifice. He left an Arizona team in pursuit of a national championship with two weeks left in the 2002-03 season, announcing his intention to transfer. And Francis, even before he was injured last February, was not getting as much done as when he was a freshman. His rebounding and scoring both were sporadic. Notre Dame will not excel unless Francis begins to fulfill his promise. And the Irish probably won't win if Thomas, who shot less than 40 percent last season, again takes almost 200 more shots than any teammate. More players have to be involved.

X-FACTOR: Junior Ricky Cornett is the only Fighting Irish player who deserves to be called a power forward. He is rugged and aggressive and will battle teams in the lane. It took a long time for him to find his way to this level, but he closed last season with a flourish. Cornett averaged 7.1 points and 4.8 rebounds during the team's impressive late-season surge. With that, he helped provide a swagger missing for most of the last two seasons. If he continues to advance, Notre Dame will have at least three effective power players—and possibly four if Jordan Cornette mixes it up more. For a team that was outrebounded by nearly two boards per game last season, that will represent a marked improvement.



A BIG EAST COACH SAYS:

That's one of the teams I'd be afraid to play. I'm sure Chris Thomas will be more mature. With him and Chris Quinn, that's a good backcourt. They play off each other well. I like that team a lot, just based on experience. They relied too much on Thomas last year. He had to score too much, and it was do or die. I think 548 shots is a lot of shots to take. They need to get Torin Francis the ball inside. They have to have better balance, and I think they'll probably figure that out. Missing Torrian Jones ... that's the spot that could get them.

IRISH DATA

Coach: Mike Brey (85-44, 4 years; 184-96 overall, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 4-5)

Assistant coaches: Rod Balanis (4 years), Sean Kearney (4), Lewis Preston

2003-04 record: 19-13. Big East: 9-7/7th. Lost to Oregon in NIT quarterfi-

Last regular-season title: 2001 (West Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: South Bend, Ind. Website: www.und.com Home court: Joyce Center (11,418).

200	3-045	starter; bold names: p	rojectea 2004	1-05 St	arter				-	_
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
55	G	Greg Bosl	6-1/193	Sr.	0.5	0.0	0.0	33.3	-	33.3
4	F	John Carlson	6-6/230	So.	0.7	0.3	0.0	-	100.0	-
43	G	Russell Carter	6-4/210	So.	0.8	0.4	0.0	33.3	50.0	40.0
11	F	Ricky Cornett	6-8/255	Jr.	4.5	3.4	0.2	47.5	67.7	-
12	F	Jordan Cornette*	6-9/236	Sr.	5.8	6.0	1.2	33.9	64.1	35.1
15	G	Colin Falls	6-4/200	So.	4.6	1.3	0.9	40.9	69.6	39.4
34	F/C	Torin Francis*	6-11/252	Jr.	14.2	8.8	1.2	54.1	68.2	0.0
5	F	Omari Isreal	6-8/232	So.	Redsh	nirted	last sea	son whi	le rehabb	ing ACL.
31	F	Rob Kurz	6-9/215	Fr.	Shoul	d help	right a	way, esp	ecially o	n defens
41	F	Dennis Latimore	6-8/253	Sr.	Arizo	na tra	nsfer i	s eligibl	e this se	eason.
2	G	Chris Quinn*	6-2/188	Jr.	14.3	3.0	3.3	43.2	80.2	37.9
1	G	Chris Thomas*	6-1/185	Sr.	19.7	4.2	4.7	38.5	82.6	35.1
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G/F	Tor	rrian Jones*	6-9/235	8.4	5	.8	2.0	42.5	67.4	22.5
C	Tor	m Timmermans	6-11/253	6.0	4	3	1.0	45.5	68.8	40.9

5. Villanova

WHAT WE LIKE: The great recruiting class that arrived in the fall of 2002—guards Allan Ray and Randy Foye and frontcourt players Curtis Sumpter and Jason Fraser—has matured and should be ready to elevate the program. They now should understand what works and what does not. Ray has a terrific touch. Foye has struggled with his jumper but has the potential to hit regularly from 3-point range. They form a 3-man backcourt along with Mike Nardi, another proven shooter who can attack the lane. Sumpter sometimes appears to be caught between a small forward's body and a power forward's game, but he could put up star-quality numbers with more shots.

WHAT SCARES US: Fraser has played only 51 of a possible 66 games in two seasons, and his injuries have limited his progress. Fraser could be a fearsome player inside, making a huge difference by aggressively patrolling the lane. This group has not proven that it can excel defensively. If a team is going to play three genuine guards, there's no excuse for consistently turning over the ball. Foye and Nardi, the ostensible point guards, both committed more than 100 turnovers last season. That's how a team this talented lost 17 games.

X-FACTOR: The Wildcats have preferred to function with a pure three-guard lineup, and freshman Kyle Lowry was supposed to relieve all three starters and play 20-plus minutes. Now that he will miss all or most of the year with a torn knee ligament, Villanova will have to consider going with a big lineup more often. It's possible that could make the Wildcats better. But they'll have to get used to it.

SCHEDULE

N23 MdBaltimore County D4 Temple	D14 Fordham D22 Albany	J5 West Virginia J8 at Notre Dame	J19 at Boston College J22 Kansas	F2 at Connecticut F5 Providence	F17 at Seton Hall F20 Pittsburgh	M2 Seton Hall M5 at St. John's
D7 Bucknell	D27 Middle Tennessee	J11 at Providence	J26 Notre Dame	F7 at Saint Joseph's	F23 Boston College	mo aconomio
D11 at La Salle	D31 Pennsylvania	J15 Georgetown	J29 at Rutgers	F12 Syracuse	F27 at Georgetown	

6. Boston College

WHAT WE LIKE: Big Craig Smith is a magnificent anchor to any offense. He consumes space, playing time, opposing defenses. Because he's so powerful, he can establish position in the low post and dare opponents to move him. If Smith can improve his free throw shooting, he'll be even more dangerous. Jared Dudley is a versatile scorer who is especially effective working the offensive boards and good enough from outside that he must be honored. Louis Hinnant was a pleasant surprise at point guard last season. He rarely turned over the ball and hit nearly half his 3-point shots. The Eagles don't have great guards, but the ones they have are close in talent, so coach Al Skinner is able to rotate them and keep the attacking defense fresh.

WHAT SCARES US: The BC frontcourt will have to replace the energy provided by Uka Agbai, who had been an important part of the Eagles' most successful teams. Center Nate Doornekamp, a possible replacement, functioned largely as a change-of-pace player and may not be capable of full-time minutes. The Eagles were fortunate in August to steal another late recruit, 6-10 John Oates, but there's no guarantee he'll turn out like Smith and Dudley. Hinnant does not feed the post well; that's a serious shortcoming for a team featuring such a powerful low-post scorer. The Eagles also wasted a lot of possessions watching Sean Marshall miss jump shots.

X-FACTOR: A 7-footer who has been around as long as Doornekamp without becoming a force most often won't get there. But he could add much to the Eagles, given his experience and degree of skill.

SCHEDULE

N19 Maine	D5 UCLA	D19 Yale	J5 at Connecticut	J22 at St. John's	F5 at Seton Hall	F23 at Villanova
N23 New Hampshire	at Anaheim	D22 Duquesne	J8 Providence	J26 at Providence	F8 at Notre Dame	F26 Seton Hall
N26 Clemson	D9 Holy Cross	D29 Kent St.	J16 at West Virginia	J29 Georgetown	F16 Rutgers	F28 Pittsburgh
N30 Long Island	D11 Boston University	J2 at Massachusetts	J19 Villanova	F1 West Virginia	F19 Syracuse	M5 at Rutgers

WILDCATS DATA

Coach: Jay Wright (52-46, 3 years; 174-131 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Assistant coaches: Fred Hill (3 years), Brett Gunning (3), Ed Pinckney (1). 2003-04 record: 18-17. Big East: 6-10/11th. Lost to Rutgers in NIT quarter-final

Last regular-season title: 1997 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Philadelphia. Website: www.villanova.com

Home court: The Pavilion (6,500).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names:	projected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
44	F	Marcus Austin	6-9/240	Sr.	1.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	-
21	F/C	Chris Charles	7-0/220	Jr.	2.1	2.3	0.2	54.3	42.9	-
5	G	Michael Claxton	6-0/200	Jr.	0.6	0.5	0.1	60.0	50.0	0.0
4	G	Ross Condon	5-11/180	So.	0.7	0.7	0.7	66.7	-	_
22	G	Baker Dunleavy	6-5/205	So.	0.4	0.3	0.3	25.0	50.0	0.0
2	G	Randy Foye*	6-3/195	Jr.	13.5	4.7	3.6	38.7	76.2	29.9
20	F/C	Jason Fraser*	6-9/215	Jr.	7.1	7.1	0.7	62.2	63.2	-
10	G	Tom Grace	5-11/170	Sr.	0.6	0.1	0.3	50.0	50.0	50.0
	G	Kyle Lowry	6-0/185	Fr.	Knee	injury	makes	his statu	s uncer	tain.
12	G	Mike Nardi*	6-0/175	So.	9.9	2.3	3.7	42.4	82.8	41.1
14	G	Allan Ray*	6-2/205	Jr.	17.3	3.9	2.7	43.8	79.2	39.2
50	F	Will Sheridan	6-8/240	So.	4.5	4.7	0.7	58.6	64.6	100.0
34	F	Curtis Sumpter*	6-7/220	Jr.	14.3	7.1	1.2	49.0	75.2	31.8
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	And	dreas Bloch	6-8/215	3.7	2.	.3	0.6	38.4	75.0	32.7
G	Der	rrick Snowden	6-0/160	2.9	1.	5	1.0	37.8	47.1	30.8

EAGLES DATA

Coach: Al Skinner (122-95, 7 years; 260-221 overall, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 3-5)

Assistant coaches: Bill Coen (7 years), Ed Cooley (7), Pat Duquette (7). 2003-04 record: 24-10. Big East: 10-6/T5th. Lost to Georgia Tech in NCAA St. Louis Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2003 (tie, East Division). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Chestnut Hill, Mass. Website: www.bceagles.com

Home court: Silvio O. Conte Forum (8,606).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr	ojecteu 2004	+-03 31	tarter					
lo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
13	C	Nate Doornekamp	7-0/260	Sr.	3.1	3.1	1.1	40.9	56.4	37.5
3	F	Jared Dudley*	6-7/210	So.	11.9	6.6	2.8	46.5	72.3	31.6
25	G	Ted Dunlap	6-3/190	Jr.	0.0	0.2	0.0	-	-	_
12	G	Steve Hailey	6-0/170	So.	4.5	1.4	2.8	40.2	73.8	39.5
11	G	Louis Hinnant*	6-4/190	Jr.	5.2	2.1	3.3	43.7	77.5	46.6
23	G/F	Sean Marshall*	6-5/205	So.	8.0	2.7	1.9	37.1	66.7	29.0
5	F	Akida McLain	6-7/210	Fr.	Impo	sing pr	esence	in the pa	aint.	
21	G	Tyler Neville	6-3/190	Jr.	0.4	0.0	0.0	50.0	_	0.0
32	F	John Oates	6-10/255	Fr.	Late s	ignee	led prep	team to	o divisio	n crown
1	F	Craig Smith*	6-7/255	Jr.	16.9	8.3	1.4	55.3	57.2	36.8
4	G	Jermaine Watson	6-3/204	Sr.	6.8	2.8	1.7	38.7	72.8	27.8
20	F	Gordon Watt	6-6/210	Fr.	Devas	tating	reboun	der also	racks up	steals.
51	F	Sean Williams	6-10/235	Fr.	Could	becon	ne a top	-notch s	hot bloc	ker.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
C	Uka Agbai*	6-6/262	10.6	5.0	1.3	47.9	68.9	14.3	
G/F	Devon Evertsen	6-6/205	2.2	0.7	0.2	32.3	100.0	23.8	
F	Johnnie Jackson	6-6/190	2.0	1.3	0.0	50.0	50.0	25.0	

7. Seton Hall

WHAT WE LIKE: There might not be a tougher group than the Pirates' four returning veterans. Center Kelly Whitney, power forward Andre Sweet and wings John Allen and J.R. Morris are long and physical. They have an air of aggression about them. It's also a fine defensive group that consistently held opponents to low shooting percentages last year without a superior shot blocker. There will be a new point guard, but his role will be basic: limit turnovers, initiate the offense, defend his position and get the ball to the four players who averaged double-figure scoring last year.

WHAT SCARES US: The Pirates were dependent for so long on point guard Andre Barrett. They have three candidates to replace him, but none is a no-brainer and only Donald Copeland has Division I experience. Copeland is an excellent defender with two years in the program. Jamar Nutter is a solid, physical player who lacks high-level talent. Freshman Justin Cerasoli likes to force action, which is what this team does not need. Even with Barrett, the team's best long-range shooter, the Pirates were not a superior offensive team. Whitney has work to do if he's going to become a better offensive option. He has to handle the ball better and reduce turnovers. And, if he wants to be great, he has to rebound more efficiently.

X-FACTOR: Morris has potential to be a first-rate shooting guard. He shared time last year with Marcus Toney-El and was the better offensive player. He has a chance to become a 3-point threat and could score in the mid-teens if he gets full-time minutes.

SCHEDIII E

D29 at Davidson	J17 Connecticut	F5 Boston College	F20 at West Virginia	M5 West Virginia
J5 Notre Dame	J22 Rutgers	F8 at Rutgers	F23 Providence	
rn J8 at Syracuse	J30 at St. John's	F12 St. John's	F26 at Boston College	
115 at Dittchurch	F2 at Georgetown	F17 Villanova	M2 at Villanova	
te	J5 Notre Dame	J5 Notre Dame J22 Rutgers tern J8 at Syracuse J30 at St. John's	J5 Notre Dame J22 Rutgers F8 at Rutgers stern J8 at Syracuse J30 at St. John's F12 St. John's	JS Notre Dame J22 Rutgers F8 at Rutgers F23 Providence stern J8 at Syracuse J30 at St. John's F12 St. John's F26 at Boston College

Providence

WHAT WE LIKE: The return of Ryan Gomes, who pulled his name from the NBA draft, benefits both the player and team. Gomes is a versatile scorer who can pound teams in the post or drag defenders to the perimeter. He is not yet a great shooter, but he's getting better. And the Friars, who lost three of their top five scorers, need him to be even more of an offensive force. Point guard Donnie McGrath is not a great creator, but he keeps the attack moving forward and is a decent long-range shooter. He needs to learn how to make things happen beyond the first line of defense.

WHAT SCARES US: The 2-3 zone worked so well for the Friars because Marcus Douthit was rejecting and discouraging shots in the lane. Without him, this team will have a harder time defensively. Gomes is not a great man defender; neither is McGrath. In the zone, the Friars won't be as long or active. Gomes' offensive production also could slip because defenses that could not focus solely on stopping him last year can be more aggressive with him now. The Friars will depend on three recruits for frontcourt depth, and the best of them-DeSean White—is not the biggest. Center Randall Hanke has promise, but he needs to develop physically.

X-FACTOR: No Providence player has more unrecognized potential than senior forward Tuukka Kotti, who has been too reluctant to shoot. His role shrunk considerably last year as Douthit developed and Gomes hit the big time. Kotti, who figures to play full-time now, needs to assert himself at both ends of the floor.

SUHEDULE						
N16-26 Preseason NIT	D4 Rhode Islan	nd J15 Syracuse	J31 at Pittsburgh	F15 Connecticut	M1 St. John's	
N27 Florida	D23 at Memphi	is J19 at Rutgers	F5 at Villanova	F19 Notre Dame	M5 at Georgetown	
at Miami	J8 at Boston (College J26 Boston College	F9 at West Virginia	F23 at Seton Hall		
N30 Winthrop	J11 Villanova	J29 West Virginia	F13 Rutgers	F26 at Syracuse		

PIRATES DATA

Coach: Louis Orr (50-41, 3 years; 70-52 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament

Assistant coaches: Brian Nash (3 years), Billy Garrett (3), John Dunne (3). 2003-04 record: 21-10. Big East: 10-6/T5th. Lost to Duke in NCAA Atlanta Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 1993.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: South Orange, N.J. Website: www.shupirates.com Home court: Continental Airlines Arena (20,029).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
32	G/F	John Allen*	6-5/207	Sr.	12.4	4.7	2.3	39.9	80.0	30.1
41	C	Grant Billmeier	6-10/245	So.	1.5	2.1	0.4	53.3	60.0	_
	G	Justin Cerasoli	6-5/185	Fr.	He st	ould s	step int	o point	guard v	oid.
10	G	Donald Copeland	5-10/160	Jr.	1.3	0.5	0.6	26.7	66.7	40.0
	F/C	Marcus Cousin	6-10/230	Fr.	Solid	all-aro	und pla	yer adds	frontco	urt depth
	F	Stan Gaines	6-7/245	Jr.	Minn	esota t	ransfer	must sit	out 200	04-05.
22	C	Alex Gambino	7-0/245	Jr.	0.8	0.8	0.0	40.0	25.0	-
	G/F	Brian Laing	6-5/200	Fr.	Excell	ent lea	per wh	o battle	s hard.	
21	F	Mani Messy	6-7/216	So.	0.3	0.5	0.0	25.0	33.3	0.0
4	G/F	J.R. Morris	6-5/206	Jr.	10.1	3.7	0.6	44.6	76.2	35.0
2	G	Jamar Nutter	6-2/205	So.	Inelig	ible to	play la	st season	1.	
33	F	Andre Sweet*	6-6/215	Sr.	10.1	6.0	1.5	44.9	76.8	32.2
1	F/C	Kelly Whitney*	6-8/240	Jr.	13.6	6.9	0.6	56.2	61.3	_

KEYLOSSES

	LOJJLJ								
Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Andre Barrett*	5-10/172	17.3	3.9	5.9	45.5	76.1	38.4	
F	Damion Fray	6-8/236	2.2	1.8	0.1	52.0	60.0	-	
F	Marcus Toney-EI*	6-6/206	6.4	4.9	1.3	46.8	58.7	29.7	

FRIARS DATA

Coach: Tim Welsh (101-82, 6 years; 171-104 overall, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3)

Assistant coaches: Steve DeMeo (6 years), Bob Walsh (6), Phil Seymore (4). 2003-04 record: 20-9. Big East: 11-5/T3rd. Lost to Pacific in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 1994.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Providence, R.I. Website: www.friars.com Home court: Dunkin' Donuts Center (12,993).

ROSTER

nu.										
*200	3-04 9	tarter; bold names: pro	jected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
24	G	Dwight Brewington	6-5/195	So.	5.7	2.5	1.6	41.3	56.8	28.6
5	G	Gerald Brown	6-4/198	So.	2.0	0.6	0.6	42.1	62.5	14.3
33	F	Charlie Burch	6-6/218	Fr.	Avera	ged do	uble-do	ouble as	prep sch	ool senior.
31	G	Timothy Englert	5-11/165	Jr.	0.8	0.0	0.5	-	75.0	-
3	F	Ryan Gomes*	6-7/240	Sr.	18.9	9.4	2.3	50.7	87.0	33.3
32	C	Randall Hanke	6-10/215	Fr.	Talles	t Friar	is an ou	itstandir	ig shot h	locker.
15	F/C	Herbert Hill	6-9/220	So.	1.0	0.7	0.1	50.0	62.5	-
11	F	Tuukka Kotti	6-9/220	Sr.	6.1	3.6	1.2	46.4	57.6	50.0
1	G	Donnie McGrath*	6-4/190	Jr.	10.0	1.8	3.4	39.2	72.7	36.8
10	G	Rob McKiver	6-3/195	Fr.	Misse	ed mos	t of last	season	with an	injury.
21	F	Jeff Parmer	6-7/230	Fr.	Stron	g rebo	under r	edshirte	d in 200	3-04.
12	G	JaJuan Robinson	5-10/170	Fr.	Capal	ble of t	aking t	he ball to	o the ho	op.
25	F	Sean Van De Walle	6-4/205	So.	1.0	0.3	0.0	33.3	-	50.0
2	F	DeSean White	6-7/230	Fr.	Covet	ted pla	yer with	great a	II-aroun	d skills.
KE	YLC	SSES								
Pos.			Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	PG .	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Chirs Anrin	6-7/220	3.0	0.7	0.3	45.1	42.9	42.6	
Marcus Douthit*	6-10/235	7.8	5.9	2.2	44.6	76.8	_	
Sheiku Kabba*	6-3/200	10.4	3.2	2.3	42.3	82.7	35.7	
Rob Sanders*	6-6/215	10.8	4.4	2.5	50.0	56.4	40.4	

Rutgers

WHAT WE LIKE: By the end of last season, Ricky Shields, Quincy Douby and Marquis Webb had become a potent perimeter combination. Webb is not a true, creative point, but he handled the ball for 30plus minutes, avoided mistakes and kept the offense flowing. Douby is a legit shooting guard with great range and a scorer's mentality. He blossomed in the run to the NIT final, when he committed to attacking as well as shooting, which made him tougher to defend. Shields is a quality wing who loves to shoot but manages not to overdo it. With Douby and Shields in the lineup, there might be too much reliance on the deep shot. But better to have too much shooting than none at all.

WHAT SCARES US: Frontcourt starters Herve Lamizana and Sean Axani are gone, and Rutgers has neither the talent nor size to replace them. Only three players are taller than 6-7, and no returnee averaged as many as five rebounds. The Knights will rely on forward Adrian Hill, who started 17 games last year, but they might have to squeeze more use out of young players Byron Joynes and Dan Waterstradt than is prudent in a league this competitive. The other alternative is to use a smaller lineup, a strategy they might be able to survive this season when fewer league opponents have overwhelming front lines.

X-FACTOR: Last year's 20-win season was the first in more than two decades. That's a long time in college basketball, where teams can get well with one big recruiting class. The Scarlet Knights reached that mark through the back door with a long NIT run, but it still was a taste of success, and could encourage them to make winning a habit.

SCHEDULE

D1 D4	Penn St. Wisconsin	D18 D22	Fairleigh Dickinson	J11 J15	Pittsburgh at Georgetown at Connecticut Providence	J24 J29	at Seton Hall Syracuse Villanova at St. John's	F8 F13	Georgetown Seton Hall at Providence at Boston College	F26 M2	Connecticut at West Virginia at Notre Dame Boston College
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10. West Virginia

WHAT WE LIKE: The Mountaineers took a three-week summer tour to Europe, and center D'or Fischer continued to progress. Already an elite shot blocker, Fischer has lagged offensively because he hasn't been strong enough to establish solid position inside. His improved production will greatly help the offense. Power forward Kevin Pittsnogle is a good deep shooter but not effective inside. Pittsnogle, Tyrone Sally and undersized Mike Gansey give the Mountaineers three forwards who can strike from long range. Gansey, a transfer from St. Bonaventure, is a more aggressive offensive player who welcomes the chance to step forward as the primary option.

WHAT SCARES US: You're not going to win in the Big East without being able to score, and the Mountaineers never found a focus for their attack after guard Drew Schifino's departure. Point guard Jarmon Durisseau-Collins doesn't turn over the ball but doesn't make a lot happen, either. Although Gansey should help, there is doubt whether there's enough pure offensive ability for this team to break into NCAA Tournament contention. If the Mountaineers are going to play multiple defenses, they must be tighter along the perimeter. They also need to put more effort into controlling the boards.

X-FACTOR: Sally gets just enough done to make you wonder if there's more he can do. He has 3-point range, plays strong inside and is an excellent offensive rebounder. Sally will have to fight hard to keep Gansey from taking his playing time. Perhaps that will be enough to make him into the player West Virginia needs him to be.

SCHEDUL F

DO! ILDULL						
N20 St. Peter's	D7 St. Bonaventure	D29 George Washington	J11 Marshall	J25 Connecticut	F9 Providence	F23 at Pittsburgh
N24 at Duquesne	D11 Coppin St.	J2 at N.C. State	J16 Boston College	J29 at Providence	F12 at Georgetown	F26 Rutgers
N27 at LSU	D18 James Madison	J5 at Villanova	J19 Notre Dame	F1 at Boston College	F16 at St. John's	M5 at Seton Hall
D4 Radford	D21 New Hampshire	J8 St. John's	J22 at Syracuse	F5 Pittsburgh	F20 Seton Hall	

SCARLET KNIGHTS DATA

Coach: Gary Waters (50-42, 3 years; 142-102 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Assistant coaches: Larry DeSimpelare (3 years), Garland Mance (3), Jim Carr (1st).

2003-04 record: 20-13. Big East: 7-9/T8th. Lost to Michigan in NIT final. Last regular-season title: 1991 (Atlantic 10).

Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: New Brunswick, N.J. Website: www.scarletknights.com

Home court: Rutgers Athletic Center (8,000).

ROSTER

No.	Doc	Name	Nt./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	20/
		.,,,,,,,	and a second		25.5					3%
40	F	Ollie Bailey	6-7/225	Fr.					Chicago.	
5	G	Quincy Douby	6-3/175	So.	12.5	1.9	1.7	42.5	82.6	42.6
3	G	Tyler Glass	6-1/170	Sr.	Hofst	ra tra	nsfer eli	gible thi	s season	
4	F	Adrian Hill*	6-8/235	Jr.	6.4	4.7	0.4	48.8	59.1	0.0
21	C	Byron Joynes	6-9/270	So.	1.9	2.0	0.2	37.5	51.2	-
33	G	Shayle Keating	6-0/165	So.	0.2	0.5	0.5	25.0	0.0	0.0
15	G	Jon Mimmo	6-1/190	So.	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	_
10	G	Manny Quezada	6-2/185	Fr.	Score	r at th	e point	who see	s the flo	or well
2	G	Ricky Shields*	6-4/190	Sr.	15.5	4.7	1.9	41.3	76.1	37.3
45	F/C	Dan Waterstradt	6-11/220	Fr.	Sound	play	er who	needs to	get stro	nger.
11	F/G	Marquis Webb*	6-5/205	So.	7.2	3.4	2.9	39.5	77.2	38.0
13	G	Juel Wiggan	6-3/185	Sr.	4.7	2.2	2.7	35.8	78.7	32.1
KE	/ LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nar	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Sea	in Axani*	6-8/235	5.6	6.	7	1.2	50.3	55.1	33.3
F	Her	ve Lamizana*	6-10/215	13.4	7.	6	1.8	39.7	70.1	28.3
G	Cal	vin Wooten	6-1/180	3.5	0.	8	0.3	41.5	66.7	33.3

MOUNTAINEERS DATA

Coach: John Beilein (31-29, 2 years; 220-144 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 1-3)

Assistant coaches: Matt Brown (2 years), Jeff Neubauer (2), Jerry Dunn

2003-04 record: 17-14. Big East: 7-9/T8th. Lost to Rutgers in NIT second

Last regular-season title: 1989 (Atlantic 10).

Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Morgantown, W.Va. Website: www.msnsportsnet.com

Home court: WVU Coliseum (14,000).

RO.	ST	ER										
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pi	rojected 2004	4-05 st	tarter							
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
3	G	Patrick Beilein	6-4/205	Jr.	9.3	2.1	1.8	40.8	79.4	40.6		
31	C	Luke Bonner	6-11/240	Fr.	Brother of Florida star Matt Bonner.							
2	F	Brad Byerson	6-7/250	Fr.	Solid	rebou	nder w	ith a goo	d perim	eter game.		
1	G	J. Durisseau-Collins	*5-10/190	Jr.	4.1	1.9	3.1	42.3	64.3	40.4		
40	C	D'or Fischer*	6-11/240	Sr.	10.8	6.2	0.9	56.1	77.5	0.0		
20	G/F	Mike Gansey	6-4/210	Jr.	Transfer can hit the 3 and rebound well.							
5	G	Johannes Herber*	6-6/215	Jr.	8.2	4.3	3.3	39.5	65.9	30.4		
14	G	Darris Nichols	6-2/175	Fr.	Versatile guard can score from anywhere.							
55	G	Nick Patella	6-0/195	So.	Walk-	on wa	as a me	dical red	shirt in 2	2003-04.		
34	F/C	Kevin Pittsnogle*	6-11/240	Jr.	10.2	3.7	0.9	40.0	78.0	36.8		
11	G	Duriel Price	6-0/180	Sr.	0.4	0.1	0.0	33.3	-	50.0		
4	F	Tyrone Sally*	6-7/210	Sr.	10.2	5.2	2.1	48.2	65.9	35.3		
12	F	Frank Young	6-5/215	So.	1.1	1.0	0.2	22.2	-	22.6		
KEY	LC	SSES										
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
G	Tyle	er Relph	6-0/165	5.0	0.	9	1.5	38.6	86.2	36.3		
F	Jer	rah Young	6-7/205	0.8	1.	5	0.5	29.2	30.0	-		
		J25 Connecticut	F9	Prov	idence		113	F23 at Pi	ttsburgh			

11. Georgetown

WHAT WE LIKE: The best thing is things can't get much worse. The Hoyas at last moved the program forward by bringing in a proven winner with a distinctive style that should bother Big East opponents once the Hoyas get used to operating it. John Thompson III taught the Princeton offense well to last year's Princeton Tigers. They used it differently than the Hoyas are likely to; Princeton drained as much of the shot-clock as possible, and Georgetown won't attract recruits playing that way. But as long as there are a couple of shooting threats, this approach can work at any level. Brandon Bowman might enjoy the freedom to shoot from the perimeter. He is a legit Big East player, and the Hoyas were fortunate to keep him after a transfer scare. Darrel Owens should get more good looks, and he was a proficient shooter in his first year as a regular.

WHAT SCARES US: The adjustment to the Princeton offense won't happen rapidly. A prototypically soft Georgetown schedule might be handy here, because it will give players time to adjust. Point guard Ashanti Cook will have to entirely relearn the game. And his struggles as a shooter might make him less valuable in the transition. The offense wasn't much last year, and losing Gerald Riley removes a huge chunk of it. No one appears able to improve the rebounding.

X-FACTOR: The players should be glad to have a direction, even if it's not sexy. Several NBA teams use elements of the Princeton system, so it no longer scares off top recruits. But learning it will be a challenge, and the coaches must maintain team morale.

SCHEDULE

oward J15 at Villanova J29	at Boston College F16 at Notre Dame M5 Providence
t Pittsburgh J18 at Syracuse F2	Seton Hall F19 at St. John's
onnecticut J23 Notre Dame F5	at Rutgers F27 Villanova
utgers J25 St. John's F12	West Virginia M2 at Connecticut
tl	Pittsburgh J18 at Syracuse F2 Stanceticut J23 Notre Dame F5 a

12. St. John's

WHAT WE LIKE: Norm Roberts' first priority is to instill the attitude that Red Storm basketball will be a prouder undertaking than it was under Mike Jarvis. The talent is marginal enough that anyone who doesn't buy in can easily be replaced, and anyone who does will be embraced. There are enough new recruits in the rotation that there should be only a touch of residue from last year's embarrassing implosion. Daryll Hill has Big East talent but needs to channel it toward something other than accumulating statistics. Now that he will be coached, that seems possible. He responded well to offseason requests from Roberts and the staff. Hill can continue attacking on offense so long as he demonstrates leadership and does not exclude his teammates. Roberts will install the high/low offense that was in place when he worked with Bill Self at Tulsa, Illinois and Kansas. Roberts believes forward Lamont Hamilton can be productive playing that style because he can make shots facing the basket.

WHAT SCARES US: Fixing the recruiting lag will take time. Roberts salvaged a class that can change the culture of the program, but newcomers will have trouble making a difference on the floor. The defense is likely to improve. But there has to be someone other than Hill who can generate points. JC forward Rodney Epperson might be the only possibility.

X-FACTOR: Hamilton's freshman year was full of disappointment and frustration, but he has potential. He was suspended for a good bit of last year after an incident on a road trip, but he stuck with the program. This is his chance to show he wants to be known for something positive.

HOYAS DATA

Coach: John Thompson III (1st year; 68-42 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Assistant coaches: Kevin Broadus (1st year), Robert Burke (1st), Sydney Johnson (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-15. Big East: 4-12/T12th.

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Washington, D.C. Website: www.guhoyas.com

Home court: MCI Center (20,600).

ROSTER

No.	Pos	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
40	G	Ryan Beal	6-5/195	Jr.	0.7	0.3	0.0	50.0	16.7	0.0
1	F	Brandon Bowman*		Jr.	15.9	8.1	1.9	42.8	70.1	32.3
120	75		6-2/180		9.2	4.1	3.8	34.4	75.0	31.9
0	G	Ashanti Cook*	-	Jr.	-			200	0.5	10000
22	G/F	Tyler Crawford	6-3/196	Fr.	Hits t	he gla	ss hard			down 3s
52	F	Sead Dizdarevic	6-8/235	So.	1.4	1.6	0.1	25.0	70.0	40.0
32	F	Jeff Green	6-8/225	Fr.	Versa	tile pla	yer wit	h a deft	shooting	touch.
21	F	Cornelio Guibunda	6-9/227	Fr.	Domi	nant d	efende	r; from N	lozambi	que.
33	C	Roy Hibbert	7-2/272	Fr.	Plays	well	with hi	s back	to the b	asket.
44	F/C	A. Kilkenny-Diaw	6-8/235	Jr.	1.3	1.2	0.0	45.9	25.0	_
20	F/G	Darrel Owens*	6-6/210	Sr.	8.1	3.8	2.1	49.7	64.3	43.7
5	G	Ray Reed	6-1/175	So.	4.0	1.9	1.1	35.4	52.6	31.0
10	G/F	Ramell Ross	6-5/205	Sr.	Medi	cal red	shirt in	2003-04	1.	
2	G	Jonathan Wallace	6-1/178	Fr.	Walk	on fro	m Harv	est, Ala.,	is a scor	er.
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
-	_	0-0	Contract Con	-	_		-	The second second	ALC: U.S.	4.00

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Matt Causey	5-11/171	2.2	1.4	1.7	33.9	76.9	20.0
F/C	Courtland Freeman*	6-9/222	8.3	4.3	0.9	45.1	70.4	-
G	Gerald Riley*	6-6/215	17.0	3.5	1.6	41.1	84.4	36.7

RED STORM DATA

Coach: Norm Roberts (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Glenn Braica (1st year), Chuck Martin (1st), Fred Quartlebaum (1st).

2003-04 record: 6-21. Big East: 1-15/14th. Last regular-season title: 1992 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Jamaica, N.Y. Website: www.redstormsports.com

Home court: Alumni Hall (6,008) or Madison Square Garden (19,876).

ROSTER

No.	Pos	. Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
44	C	Mohamed Diakite	6-10/235	Sr.	0.5	1.1	0.0	50.0	40.0	-
	F	Rodney Epperson	6-8/200	Jr.	New	York-t	orn JC	transfe	r is vers	satile.
	G	Dexter Gray	6-6/220	Fr.	Hard-	workin	ng, mati	ure leade	er.	
34	F	Lamont Hamilton	6-9/242	So.	5.9	4.2	0.3	44.6	69.0	18.2
3	G	Daryll Hill*	6-0/163	So.	14.8	2.7	3.7	38.1	74.7	34.4
	G	Cedric Jackson	6-1/185	Fr.	Savvy	playn	naker at	point g	uard.	
52	(Curtis Johnson	7-3/308	Sr.	2.5	3.6	0.1	35.2	16.7	-
11	F	Tyler Jones	6-9/214	So.	2.2	2.4	0.8	33.8	28.6	12.5
	G	Eugene Lawrence	6-1/190	Fr.	H.S. 1	eamn	nate of	Sebastia	an Telfa	r.
	F	Jermaine Maybank	6-4/180	Jr.	JC red	ruit pr	ovides	backcour	rt depth.	
15	F	Phil Missere	6-8/200	Sr.	5.3	5.4	0.2	39.5	90.0	0.0
	F	Ryan Williams	6-5/220	Jr.	H.S. t	eamm	ate of H	ill; from	Queens,	N.Y.
KF		OSSES			10010		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
Pos.	-	ime	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	Kyle Cuffe*	6-9/236	11.2	7.4	1.1	42.8	62.5	27.0	
G	Elijah Ingram*	5-11/166	13.2	3.7	2.3	35.5	66.7	37.4	
(Abe Keita*	6-10/227	0.9	2.0	0.1	24.1	40.0	_	
F	Grady Reynolds*	6-7/212	11.8	6.2	1.1	45.9	63.6	15.4	
G	Willie Shaw	6-6/190	4.5	4.5	1.5	30.0	42.9	0.0	
G	Andre Stanley	6-3/215	8.0	5.3	2.7	43.1	59.7	38.5	

SCHEDI II E

JOI ILDULL						
N20 Wagner	D4 at Illinois St.	D28-30 Madison Sq. Garden Fest.	J18 Pittsburgh	F2 Rutgers	F16 West Virginia	M1 at Providence
N23 St. Francis (N.Y.)	D8 Virginia Tech	J5 Syracuse	J22 Boston College	F5 at Connecticut	F19 Georgetown	M5 Villanova
N27 at Niagara	D11 at Hofstra	J8 at West Virginia	J25 at Georgetown	F8 at Pittsburgh	F23 at Syracuse	
N30 Stony Brook	D19 Marist	J15 at Notre Dame	J30 Seton Hall	F12 at Seton Hall	F26 Duke	

National rank 3

By Kyle Veltrop

Big 12

Less stress and drama off the court; more slam and dunk on it

This conference recently has been as good at producing tabloid-style news as winning games. And that's saying something considering five of the last 12 Final Four teams have been Big 12 representatives. But those tournament successes have been overshadowed, to put it mildly, by murder at Baylor, partying with Iowa State's coach, Roy Williams jilting Kansas, taped jailhouse conversations at Missouri and anything Bob Knight does at Texas Tech.

Now, it appears safe to keep both eyes on the ball. Stability, apparently, has settled in around the league, and the ball should be worth watching. The headliners: Kansas, which is experienced, talented and unusually deep; Oklahoma State, which has enough going for it to return to the Final Four; and Texas, which adds one of the best recruiting classes in the nation to its nice sprinkling of seasoning.

The Big 12 took a small step back last year, but potential powers are present and young talent is plentiful. This conference has been—and will be—one of the best. All it needs now is to parlay one of its Final Four trips into a national championship.

That would really make news.

ASCENDING: Iowa State. The future of Iowa State became more clear over the final eight games of last season when freshman Curtis Stinson averaged 19.1 points on 57.1 percent shooting. He is a terrific penetrator

Curtis Stinson averaged 19.1 points on 57.1 percent shooting. He is a terrific penetrator and midrange shooter who also ranked in the top five in the conference in assists and steals and averaged 6.0 rebounds. Will

Experienced, savvy **Aaron Miles has** started at the point for two Kansas Final Four teams. HE STATE OF THE ST

Blalock is a blossoming backcourt partner, and Jared Homan provides an inside presence. If coach Wayne Morgan can find capable bodies to surround those three, the Cyclones will return to the NCAAs after a three-year absence.

DESCENDING: Colorado. The Buffaloes, fresh off a 2003 NCAA Tournament appearance, couldn't build on that success and settled for the NIT bid last year. Now, the key players from those teams—bruising center David Harrison, versatile forward Michel Morandais and long-range marksman Blair Wilson—are gone.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Brandon Foust, F, Oklahoma. He went from warming the bench to hardly seeing the bench in the Sooners' final six games. In two NIT contests, he scored 19 and 14 points while leading his team in rebounding. Foust is a terrific slasher who has a developing perimeter game. A high school teammate of Sooner point guard Drew Lavender, Foust eventually could prove to be a better catch for Kelvin Sampson.

2. Jarrius Jackson, G, Texas Tech. He arrived in Lubbock with little hype but proved to be a productive, even indispensable, player as a freshman. There's a good chance he could inherit a lot of Andre Emmett's shots as a sophomore. Jackson needs to improve as a shooter, but he drives well, protects the ball and has a good feel for the game.

3. Thomas Gardner, G, Missouri. He was one of the few bright spots in a season that saw Missouri in the top five in November and in the NIT in March. He can score in bunches, from long range and in transition. Gardner also has the potential to be a shutdown defender. With Rickey Paulding gone, there is a spot available on the wing.

BEST BETS:

1. J.R. Giddens will surpass Keith Langford as Kansas' No. 2 scoring option behind Wayne Simien. Giddens is a much better shooter—and athlete—than Langford. Giddens has ridiculous range and is one of the most acrobatic dunkers in the nation. Langford is a fine player who will get his points, but Kansas is better off with the ball

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Oklahoma State	14	2	31	4
Texas	12	4	25	8
Kansas	12	4	24	9
Colorado	10	6	18	11
Texas Tech	9	7	23	11
Missouri	9	7	16	14
Oklahoma	8	8	20	11
Iowa State	7	9	20	13
Nebraska	6	10	18	13
Kansas State	6	10	14	14
Baylor	3	13	8	21
Texas A&M	0	16	7	21

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- Texas: This top five class features five top 100 level recruits. Daniel Gibson will add backcourt firepower. Mike Williams will give quality minutes. LaMarcus Aldridge has the gifts to be special this winter.
- 2. Kansas: Russell Robinson will be a spark off the bench, but Jayhawks needed size and re-loaded with
- three top 75 big men in Sasha Kaun, Darnell Jackson and C.J. Giles. They will be the core of future NCAA runs.

 3. Missouri: Kalen Grimes will fill Arthur Johnson's spot admirably. Marshall Brown and Glen Dandridge will add offense up front. Jason Horton can be the floor general who has been missing.
- **4. Iowa State:** The Cyclones add a ton of athleticism. Robert Faulkner and Rahshon Clark will challenge for starting spots this winter, while Anthony Davis and Tasheed Carr battle to fill Jake Sullivan's wing spot.
- 5. Oklahoma State: The Cowboys add size and backcourt depth. Aaron Pettway will start right away. Guard JamesOn Curry will help fill the void left by Tony Allen.
- **6. Oklahoma:** JC All-American Taj Gray and 6-11 shot blocker Longar Longar will have an immediate impact, adding depth inside to go with Kevin Bookout. JC wing Terrell Everett will add perimeter firepower.
- 7. Colorado: As the Buffs rebuild in a hurry, JCs Julius Ashby and Lamont Arrington will do their best to replace David Harrison. Richard Roby and Martane Freeman add perimeter speed.
- **8. Baylor:** 7-footer Mamadou Diene has tremendous potential, but the backcourt trio of Australian shooter Aaron Bruce and JC points Roscoe Biggers and Kevis Shipman will spur any rapid improvement.
- 9. Texas A&M: 6-9 prep Joseph Jones and 6-7 JC Edjuan Green likely will start up front.
- 10. Nebraska: 6-10 prep Aleks Maric will compete for a frontcourt starting spot, but the cornerstone of this class will be the offensive impact brought by JC All-American Marcus Perry.
- 11. Kansas State: Curtis Allen, Fred Peete and sweet shooting Clent Stewart will bolster the perimeter.
- 12. Texas Tech: Explosive 6-5 wing Martin Zeno could end up being a steal for the Red Raiders.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

in Giddens' hands.

2. Joey Graham's star will continue to rise. In his first 15 games at Oklahoma State after transferring from Central Florida, Graham averaged 9.8 points. In his next 20, he averaged 14.4. Graham should play more on the wing this year with Tony Allen gone. That should better suit Graham's versatility and slashing ability. Look for him to be the perfect complement to the long-range (and clutch) shooting of John Lucas.

3. Antoine Wright will have a bounce-back season, and Texas A&M will win a league game. OK, so that second prediction isn't overly bold, but the Aggies did fail to dent the win column in Big 12 play last year. That led to the departure of coach Melvin Watkins and the hiring of Billy Gillispie, who went from 24 losses to 24 wins in his first two seasons as a head coach at UTEP. Gillispie's local ties should help when recruiting within the state. He also should get more out of Wright, who's one of the league's more talented players. Wright often forced things last year but should flourish in Gillispie's uptempo system.

E-mail associate editor Kyle Veltrop at kveltrop@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Oklahoma State	35	51.3	69.5	37.6	35.8	16.0	7.7	3.7	13.4	77.1
Texas	33	44.2	68.0	37.2	41.1	13.5	6.6	3.8	11.8	76.6
Kansas	33	46.5	70.7	33.5	39.5	17.3	7.0	5.0	14.7	75.8
Iowa State	33	46.6	65.3	36.8	37.6	14.4	8.0	4.3	14.8	74.6
Colorado	29	46.4	62.1	37.2	38.7	13.9	5.9	6.0	14.6	74.2
Missouri	30	44.6	70.9	35.1	37.8	13.9	5.6	4.3	14.4	74.2
Texas Tech	34	46.5	74.1	33.7	33.9	14.9	8.2	3.4	12.5	73.2
Texas A&M	28	41.5	68.4	32.5	38.0	14.8	6.2	1.3	14.9	71.9
Nebraska	31	46.6	71.8	38.9	36.1	14.0	6.3	3.9	13.5	70.5
Kansas State	28	44.5	68.1	34.3	38.1	15.3	5.4	2.7	14.2	69.4
Oklahoma	31	40.8	66.9	33.3	33.9	12.1	8.5	5.0	13.1	66.4
Baylor	29	42.6	69.1	31.5	31.9	12.1	7.4	2.6	15.4	63.7

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Oklahoma	31	42.5	69.0	35.2	36.1	11.9	6.3	3.4	17.6	62.1
Oklahoma State	35	41.0	65.6	31.2	30.6	12.3	6.1	3.1	15.1	62.5
Nebraska	31	40.0	68.4	32.7	32.1	12.7	6.7	3.6	12.3	62.9
Kansas State	28	40.0	67.1	30.9	34.3	14.3	6.9	3.3	13.8	65.5
Texas	33	39.6	72.0	30.8	34.3	11.2	5.8	3.4	14.0	66.5
Texas Tech	34	43.1	66.6	35.3	35.5	12.2	6.3	3.2	16.9	66.7
Kansas	33	39.1	70.3	31.5	35.4	12.4	6.9	3.8	14.3	67.2
Baylor	29	47.3	68.6	35.5	34.1	15.1	7.4	3.0	14.3	70.4
Colorado	29	41.7	68.9	36.2	35.4	12.8	7.0	2.9	13.0	70.7
Missouri	30	44.0	70.2	38.3	33.4	13.9	6.8	2.8	12.8	72.6
Iowa State	33	42.9	69.6	35.1	36.0	14.4	7.3	4.2	15.6	72.7
Texas A&M	28	48.8	69.1	39.0	33.3	17.3	6.0	4.0	13.6	76.4

PREDICTIONS

1. Kansas*	8. Kansas State
2. Oklahoma State*	9.Texas A&M
3. Texas*	10. Nebraska
4. Oklahoma*	11. Colorado
5. Iowa State*	12. Baylor
6. Missouri	*NCAA tourney pick
7 Teyas Tech	

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM Pos. Name, school Ht. Wt. Class G Curtis Stinson, lowa State 6-2 205 Sr. G John Lucas, Oklahoma State 5-11 152 Sr. G/F J.R. Giddens, Kansas 6-5 200 So.

G/F Joey Graham, Oklahoma State 6-7 217 Sr. F Wayne Simien, Kansas 6-9 255 Sr.

SECOND TEAM

	COMP I ENTIN			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Aaron Miles, Kansas	6-1	175	Sr.
G/F	P. J. Tucker, Texas	6-5	225	So.
G/F	Antoine Wright, Texas A&M	6-7	205	Jr.
F	Kevin Bookout, Oklahoma	6-8	259	Jr.
F/C	Linas Kleiza, Missouri	6-8	233	So.

PLRYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Wayne Simien, F, Kansas

Few, if any, college players are better at establishing position deep inside and finishing at or around the goal. And Simien's expanding range has added another dimension to his game. He should rank among the nation's leaders in rebounds. Simien's powerful, chiseled body often has betrayed him with injuries, both serious and nagging. But if he holds up for the entire season, this should be the year everything comes together for him.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Daniel Gibson, G, Texas

He is the prize of one of the top recruiting classes in the nation. Gibson will need an adjustment period as he gets used to playing the point full time—but not much. He can break down defenders off the dribble and also shoot from long range. The reloading Longhorns are in good hands with Gibson.

MOST UNDERRATED

Jeremiah Massey, F, Kansas State

He was one of the nation's most productive junior college transfers last season, when he led the Wildcats in scoring and rebounding—and



improved as the season wore on. The problem was that only a dozen or so people outside of Manhattan noticed.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: John Lucas, Oklahoma State Best playmaker: Aaron Miles, Kansas Best NBA prospect: LaMarcus Aldridge, Texas

Best defender: Ivan McFarlin, Oklahoma

Most versatile: Curtis Stinson, Iowa State

WHAT WE LIKE: Kansas will start three seniors, all of whom have Final Four experience and one-Aaron Miles-who has been the starting point guard on two Final Four teams. The other senior starters are Wayne Simien and Keith Langford. Simien is a sure-bet NBA player. Miles and Langford are terrific college players who will get a chance at the next level. Together, they give Kansas a depth and breadth of experience that no other Big 12 team has. Throw in sophomore swingman J.R. Giddens, who is the team's most prolific

SCHEDULE

N19 Vermont N23 Saint Joseph's

N29 Nevada **D4** Pacific D8

TCU D11 Louisiana-Lafavette

D18 South Carolina D22 Wisconsin-Milwaukee

at Kansas City Georgia Tech

Texas A&M at Kentucky at Iowa St

J15 at Colorado 119 Nebraska

at Villanova 125

at Baylor J29 Texas

J31 Missouri at Nebraska F9

at Kansas St. F12 F14 at Texas Tech

F19 Iowa St. at Oklahoma

F27 Oklahoma St. M2 Kansas St

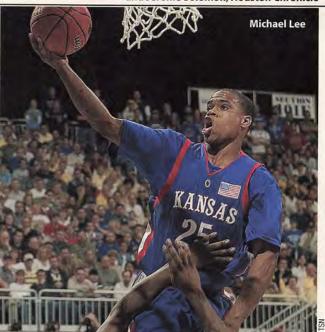
M6 at Missouri

3-point shooter and maybe its best all-around offensive player, and that's four starters back from a team that advanced to the NCAA's St. Louis Region finals. Plus, look for Michael Lee and Jeff Hawkins to make their cases for more minutes. Hawkins is an excellent defender who could help the Jayhawks improve on their seventh-place league ranking in scoring defense. It took a while for this bunch to get going last year. During one stretch, they went 6-5 with blowout losses at Oklahoma State, Nebraska and Texas. But the Jayhawks found their stride down the stretch and were an overtime period away from a third straight Final Four appearance. To that group of veterans, Bill Self added one of the nation's best recruiting classes: five freshmen who will become part of the rotation. One will start immediately in the frontcourt after David Padgett's shocking transfer to Louisvilleeither C.J. Giles, Sasha Kaun or Darnell Jackson. The rotation could go 11 deep. Self says he likely will play nine guys consistently but that those players could change often based on their effort and performance in practice.

WHAT SCARES US: The fast finish masked some of the problems in a tough transition year for Self. Kansas fans were angry at Roy Williams for taking the North Carolina job, and though they welcomed Self, they also were frustrated with him for not getting more from his lineup. A home loss to Richmond was a morale killer.

Then the Jayhawks struggled on the road with conference losses at Iowa State, Oklahoma State, Nebraska and Texas. It all came together, but it's natural to wonder about chemistry again this season. The four returning starters and more than half the roster either played for or were recruited by Williams. At times last season, those guys played like they resented that Williams was gone. Everyone promises there will be none of that this season. Long-range shooting also was a weakness last year, and the Jayhawks relied on a freshman, Giddens, to take the big 3-point shot. Freshman Alex Galindo is a good shooter, but that's the only marksman added to the 2004-05 roster. As good as Simien is, he has benefited throughout his career from talented players next to him in the frontcourt. Drew Gooden and Nick Collison were outstanding, and even Jeff Graves and Padgett had their moments. Giles, Kaun and Jackson need to develop into inside scoring threats quickly, or too much of an inside burden could be placed on Simien, who should be a national player of the year candidate if he stays healthy. That hasn't happened in three years. Knee and shoulder injuries slowed him his first two seasons; a groin problem nagged him all of last year.

X-FACTORS: Kansas suffered a big blow when assistant coach Norm Roberts took the St. John's job. Roberts had been with Self since 1995, Self's first year as a head coach. And Roberts recruited freshman Russell Robinson. Kansas will be favored to win a conference that should be improved, even though it has sent its champion to the Final Four each of the last three years. Self has won everywhere he has been-Oral Roberts, Tulsa and Illinois-but he's 0-3 in NCAA Tournament Elite Eight games, all close losses. This shapes up as the best opportunity of his career to reach the Final Four. Kansas has experience, talent and coaching. And the Jayhawks play in a conference that puts its teams through enough tough games to be ready for the postseason. —B.K.



A BIG 12 COACH SAYS:

With Bill Self's second time around, the guys will understand him more and he'll understand his players more. I think the change in style took a while because they didn't run as much. Bill plays more of a halfcourt power game. But his system is so sound. They're going to play good defense and win their home games. Do they have enough shooting to win a national championship? I don't know, but about 10 teams can win the national championship, and Kansas is one. Langford's a very good player; he's not great, but he's tough and he's good.

JAYHAWKS DATA

Coach: Bill Self (24-9, 1 year; 231-114 overall, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 13-6).

Assistant coaches: Tim Jankovich (1 year), Joe Dooley (1), Kurtis Townsend (1st)

2003-04 record: 24-9. Big 12: 12-4/T2nd. Lost to Georgia Tech in NCAA St. Louis Region final.

Last regular-season title: 2003.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1989. Site: Lawrence, Kan. Website: www.kuathletics.com

Home court: Allen Fieldhouse (16,300).

DOSTED

David Padgett

Omar Wilkes

No.	Pos.	. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	G	Nick Bahe	6-2/185	So.	0.7	0.6	0.2	26.7	_	25.0
10	G	Jeremy Case	6-0/165	So.	1.2	0.5	0.4	25.0	66.7	23.1
2	F	Alex Galindo	6-7/205	Fr.	Perin	neter	player w	ith grea	t shootin	g range
15	G/F	J.R. Giddens*	6-5/200	So.	11.3	3.6	0.8	47.5	66.7	40.7
33	C	C.J. Giles	6-10/220	Fr.	Domi	nant	H.S. def	ender av	eraged 6	bpg.
1	G	Jeff Hawkins	5-11/180	Jr.	1.7	0.6	0.6	27.3	61.5	19.6
32	F	Darnell Jackson	6-8/240	Fr.	Has p	layed	basketl	pall for o	nly four	ears.
24	C	Sasha Kaun	6-11/235	Fr.	Siber	ian c	ould ha	ve imm	ediate in	npact.
44	C	Matt Kleinmann	6-10/230	Fr.	Invite	d wal	k-on fro	m Overl	and Park	, Kan.
5	G	Keith Langford*	6-4/215	Sr.	15.5	5.0	3.5	47.9	66.9	35.8
25	G	Michael Lee	6-3/215	Sr.	5.5	2.5	1.6	37.5	80.0	35.4
11	G	Aaron Miles*	6-1/175	Sr.	9.1	3.8	7.3	40.2	69.9	33.3
34	F	Christian Moody	6-8/220	Jr.	1.4	1.0	0.2	68.2	33.3	_
55	F	Moulaye Niang	6-10/220	Jr.	0.9	1.1	0.1	22.7	70.0	_
3	G	Russell Robinson	6-1/185	Fr.	Comb	o gua	rd who	handles	the ball	well.
23	F	Wayne Simien*	6-9/255	Sr.	17.8	9.3	1.2	53.2	81.1	18.2
20	G	Stephen Vinson	6-2/190	Jr.	0.2	0.0	0.2	14.3	_	0.0
(E)	Y LC	SSES								
os.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Jef	f Graves*	6-9/255	6.4	4.	9	0.9	62.2	63.0	

4.5

0.9

1.1

0.1 38.5

53.1

68.1

50.0

30.8

6-11/230

6-4/175

RIG 1*9* National rank 5

lahoma State

WHAT WE LIKE: What's not to like about an experienced, topnotch point guard, athletic wingmen and a couple of good rebounders who also defend well inside for a team that reached the Final Four last season? The floor leader is John Lucas, the 5-11 point man who fit in smoothly last year after transferring from Baylor at the beginning of fall classes. Lucas, a decent player in Waco, blossomed into an All-American while directing the Cowboys' offense. After that confidencebuilding run, Mr. Big-Shot Maker should be even better. So should

SCHEDULE

N19 Northwestern St N23 Arkansas-Little Rock N27 Sam Houston St.

N29 at SMU Washington St. D7 Syracuse

at New York D10 UAB D18 at UNLV

D28 Gonzaga at Oklahoma City

at TAMU Corpus Christi at Texas Tech Missouri

Iowa St. 117 at Texas 122 Baylor at Oklahoma

115

130 at Colorado Kansas St. F5 at Baylor

Oklahoma at Texas A&M F19 Texas Tech

at Nebraska at Kansas M₂ Texas A&M

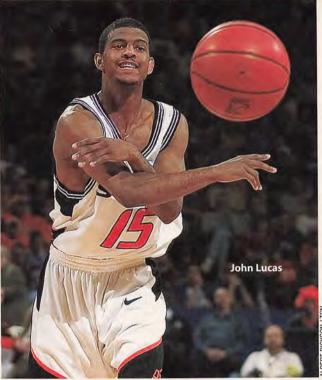
M5 Texas

swingman Joey Graham, a junior college transfer who was voted the conference's top newcomer last season. The muscular Graham spent most of his first year at power forward, but he should move to the wing more often in 2004-05. He's an explosive scorer who should challenge for all-conference-and All-Americanhonors with a little more consistency. Inside, the Cowbovs can count on hard-working Ivan McFarlin. McFarlin matched his on-court ethic in the classroom and extended his eligibility by graduating in 31/2 years after entering school as a partial qualifier. As a fifthyear senior, McFarlin is well prepared for the physical battles he will fight. Almost always undersized against opposing centers at 6-8, McFarlin could see more action at power forward with the addition of 6-11 junior college transfer Aaron Pettway. Those primary weapons will receive plenty of support from Daniel Bobik, a superb shooter, Stephen Graham, an outstanding athlete, Terrence Crawford, a solid veteran, and JamesOn Curry, a potential star freshman. Throw in the Cowboys' always-nasty team defense, a featured component of all Eddie Sutton-coached teams, and big things could be in store.

WHAT SCARES US: The Cowboys did lose league co-player of the year Tony Allen, the one player opposing Big 12 coaches had problems matching up with on either end of the court. Stephen Graham,

Joey's twin brother, probably will get a shot at filling Allen's role, particularly when the Cowboys go small as they did for much of last season. Graham lacks the intensity of his brother and sometimes gets lost defensively, so he will have to earn his minutes. But the talent is there. Another concern is Curry, who will have more than basketball to worry about as a freshman. Originally signed by North Carolina, he was released from that commitment after pleading guilty to felony drug charges. Curry, who could develop into a prominent part of the offense, likely will be a target for opposing fans and the subject of news stories concerning his past. It's the type of peripheral issue that could distract a team with high expectations. And anything short of a trip to the Final Four will be considered a disappointment. Those expectations are not outrageous. Sutton should be able to keep his team focused, but you can never predict how a team will respond to the hype entering a potential championship season.

X-FACTOR: Pettway offers size and mobility, key ingredients that could give this team the look of an NCAA champion. He also has one of the more interesting stories in college basketball. Hailed as a "shotblocking specialist," Pettway is raw offensively, due in part to the lack of hours he has spent on the court. He's a rarity among Americanborn college players. Pettway, who will turn 25 during the season, never played high school basketball. After graduating from John Shaw High in Mobile, Ala., he joined the Air Force for a four-year stint, during which time he experience a 6-inch growth spurt. Junior colleges suddenly became interested, and after two years at Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College, he finds himself as a potentially important figure for a national title contender. The inside defensive combination of Pettway and McFarlin would be tough to match for conference teams, and his inside presence should allow Joey Graham to draw a wing matchup, where he'll typically have a big strength advantage. - J.S.



A BIG 12 COACH SAYS:

They're going to be awesome. Joey Graham is a stud. He's got a great body. He's a tough matchup because he's really physical and can post, and he can step out on the floor and shoot. They added a really good junior college center in Aaron Pettway. He's not thick, but he's long and can run. They can move Ivan McFarlin back to his original position, and that'll help. He's just too short to play in the middle. John Lucas has gotten better on defense. He's not a guy who's going to dig in, but Coach Sutton finds what it is to get the best out of a guy.

COWBOYS DATA

Coach: Eddie Sutton (325-128, 14 years; 755-292 overall, 34 years; NCAA Tournament 37-25).

Assistant coaches: Sean Sutton (11 years), James Dickey (2), Jimmy Williams (1st year)

2003-04 record: 31-4. Big 12: 14-2/1st. Last regular-season title: 2004

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1997. Site: Stillwater, Okla. Website: www.okstate.com Home court: Gallagher-lba Arena (13,611).

DOCTED

*200	3-04 9	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
20	G	Daniel Bobik*	6-4/200	Sr.	7.2	3.1	2.7	45.7	66.0	41.6
42	F	Terrence Crawford	6-6/239	Sr.	2.0	2.5	0.8	40.8	66.7	0.0
24	G	JamesOn Curry	6-3/171	Fr.	All-ti	me No	rth Caro	olina pre	p top sco	rer.
5	G	Marcus Dove	6-7/191	Fr.	Show	ed ple	enty of p	otential	as a red	shirt.
35	G	Brandon Elliott	6-4/176	Fr.	Walk	on re	dshirted	in 2003	-04.	
14	G/F	Joey Graham*	6-7/217	Sr.	12.4	5.2	1.1	57.6	70.9	48.3
21	G	Stephen Graham	6-6/213	Sr.	2.8	1.4	0.7	50.0	66.7	16.7
15	G	John Lucas*	5-11/152	Sr.	15.1	2.8	4.5	45.5	88.7	39.1
23	F/C	Ivan McFarlin*	6-8/232	Sr.	12.2	6.7	1.7	58.8	64.3	0.0
32	F	David Monds	6-7/220	So.	2.2	2.1	0.2	51.4	45.5	-
50	F/C	Aaron Pettway	6-11/235	Jr.	JC re	ecruit	should	give fro	ntcourt	a boos
4	C	Frans Steyn	7-2/289	Sr.	1.6	1.6	0.1	52.9	28.6	-
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tor	ny Allen*	6-4/205	16.0	5	.5	3.1	50.4	67.5	29.7
F	Jas	on Miller	6-9/245	2.9	2	.3	0.2	59.4	75.0	-
G	Jar	navor Weatherspoon	6-1/165	4.8	1	.7	1.1	50.4	71.9	25.0

WHAT WE LIKE: Let's start with P.J. Tucker, the small forwardturned-shooting guard in an undersized power forward's body. Coach Rick Barnes is convinced Tucker will do well on the outside, although at 6-5, 225 he showed more inside skills last year while earning a spot on the conference all-freshman squad. A solid ballhandler, Tucker often will be asked to carry the team offensively-he's the only proven scorer. Whether he stays on the wing or goes back inside against the big boys, this should be a breakout year. The

SCHEDULE

N19 Texas St. N22-24 Maui Invitational N29 Coppin St.

at Seton Hall North Texas

D15 UT-Arlington D18 at Wake Forest

D22 Centenary D29 UT-San Antonio

UNLV J6 Memphis 19 Baylor

J12 at Texas A&M J15 at Nebraska J17 Oklahoma St.

J22 at Oklahoma 125 Texas Tech

J29 at Kansas F5 Iowa St at Colorado

F12 Kansas St. F16 Texas A&M

F19 at Baylor F22 at Texas Tech Missouri

F28 Oklahoma M5 at Oklahoma St.

Longhorns lost a lot of talent, but the incoming freshman class, which ranks among the best in the country, will help make sure there aren't significant setbacks in Austin. The inside-out duo of 6-10 center LaMarcus Aldridge and guard Daniel Gibson would make for a standout class alone, but power forward Mike Williams and athletic small forward Dion Dowell also arrive to give Barnes the nucleus of a future champion. Aldridge, a rangy shot blocker with scoring ability, is raw, but he still could get playing time along with Gibson as the Longhorns look to their defense to set the tone. Last year's team was a defensive anomaly; the Longhorns often went zone to make up for individual weaknesses. But if Aldridge develops, his inside presence could get Barnes back to his preferred physical man-to-man style. With depth again being an advantage (although four in the 10-man rotation are freshmen), this has the look of a Sweet 16 team with potential for more.

WHAT SCARES US: With four youngsters being counted on to make instant contributions, things could get crazy. Barnes has a knack for picking players who are ready to play at this level and throwing them into the fire. He has no choice this year as he tries to replace four seniors who were part of the winningest class in school history. Along with the points, rebounds and assists, the

Longhorns lost immeasurable leadership with the departures of Royal Ivey, Brandon Mouton, Brian Boddicker and James Thomasthe foursome Barnes referred to as the program's foundation. The freshmen, no matter how talented, are unknown factors entering the season, and several are sure to struggle early. Another worry is how role players deal with the prospect of being asked to contribute more often. Burly forward Brad Buckman had a solid freshman year, but he went from inconsistent to nonexistent as a sophomore. He will need to play well for Texas to maintain the inside depth it has leaned on in recent seasons. Sydmill Harris, a senior guard from The Netherlands, is an excellent outside shooter, but he is one of the worst defenders on the team. After three years under Barnes, has he finally figured out the team's "no defense, no play" policy? Similarly, Kenny Taylor, a transfer from Baylor a year ago, has unlimited range and very limited defense. One probably will start early in the season, and a breakthrough year from either could make this team a conference title contender.

X-FACTOR: Gibson, a floor leader with a jump shot, was penciled in as a starter even before he committed. He has dealt with an unfair comparison to fellow Houston product T.J. Ford since middle school, and he will get even more of that now. For the record, he's bigger, a better shooter and a tougher defender. But will he be a win-at-allcosts leader? In his two college seasons, Ford led the Longhorns to the Sweet 16 and the Final Four. He took pressure off less-talented teammates with his playmaking ability. Gibson will get help from the fearless Tucker, who at times can assume a point forward-like role. But make no mistake—the show is in Gibson's hands. If he struggles, the Longhorns probably will struggle, too. If he thrives ... look out. As much as veteran guard play is discussed in March, freshman floor leaders have taken teams deep into the NCAA Tournament. It will be interesting to see how far Gibson can take this team in what is believed to be a short showcase for the NBA. -J.S.



A BIG 12 COACH SAYS:

They're tough, tough-minded and they've got tradition going. Having a true point guard in Daniel Gibson should help. They never really had a point guard last year who could make them run stuff. They could defend and rebound, but you need a guy who can get people easy baskets. Now they have a point guard who can jump up from 25 feet and nail one. The big people should be better. When they had T.J. Ford, he got Brad Buckman and those guys the ball where they could do something. I don't know who becomes their scorer. But somebody will do it.

LONGHORNS DATA

Coach: Rick Barnes (141-58, 6 years; 343-192 overall, 17 years; NCAA Tournament 11-12).

Assistant coaches: Russell Springmann (3 years), Rodney Terry (2), Ken McDonald (1st)

2003-04 record: 25-8. Big 12: 12-4/T2nd. Lost to Xavier in NCAA Atlanta Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 1999.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1998. Site: Austin, Texas. Website: www.texassports.com Home court: Frank Erwin Center (16,837).

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
12	F	LaMarcus Aldridge	6-10/230	Fr.	Said	to hav	e first-r	ound NB	A draft	talent.
50	C	Connor Atchley	6-9/225	Fr.	Likely	will t	ake sor	ne time	to devel	op.
22	F	Brad Buckman*	6-8/235	Jr.	5.7	4.5	0.5	38.4	71.3	30.8
3	F	Dion Dowell	6-6/195	Fr.	Shoul	d help	impro	ve fronto	ourt spe	ed.
1	G	Daniel Gibson	6-2/190	Fr.	Big-t	ime r	ecruit I	ikely to	start at	the poin
13	G	Sydmill Harris	6-4/200	Sr.	4.0	1.1	0.4	37.6	60.0	35.5
21	C	Jason Klotz	6-9/245	Sr.	7.0	3.9	0.3	49.5	74.1	100.0
4	G	Edgar Moreno	6-2/195	Sr.	2.9	1.2	2.5	55.4	50.0	18.8
15	G	Kenton Paulino*	6-0/180	Jr.	4.8	1.4	1.8	36.4	63.6	36.5
10	G	Kenny Taylor	6-2/190	Sr.	7.3	1.8	1.2	36.3	81.3	35.8
2	G/F	P.J. Tucker*	6-5/225	So.	10.4	6.8	0.8	54.7	65.0	_
40	F	Mike Williams	6-7/220	Fr.	Third	McDo	nald's A	II-Ameri	can of th	his class.
KE	LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Bri	an Boddicker	6-8/228	8.1	4.	8	0.5	44.9	77.3	44.8
G	Roy	/al Ivey*	9-3/200	9.4	4.	0	4.3	44.8	62.6	38.7
G	Bra	ndon Mouton*	6-4/205	13.9	3.	5	1.4	42.3	72.0	36.7
C	Jan	nes Thomas	6-8/235	5.5	5.	8	0.3	46.3	64.8	

4. Oklahoma

HAT WE LIKE: The "best thing about freshmen is they become sophomores" cliche applies here-OU had four of them log doubledigit minutes a year ago. Experience should make a big difference for guards Drew Lavender and Lawrence McKenzie, center Larry Turner and forward Brandon Foust. Even more important is the return of Kevin Bookout, the burly 6-8 junior who played 13 games before undergoing season-ending shoulder surgery. Coach Kelvin Sampson didn't like not making the NCAA Tournament field for the first time in a decade and is hungry. And his transition is on schedule. This is not a championship-caliber team, but look for the Sooners to be a player in the league race and a postseason qualifier.

WHAT SCARES US: The surprise transfer of De'Angelo Alexander to Charlotte opens a hole that will be tough to fill. This could have been Alexander's breakout year. None of the improving sophomores appear ready to take on the scoring challenge of a lead offensive player, a role that might have to be filled by incoming junior college All-American Taj Gray. The Sooners have enough outside shooting to keep defenses from sagging on Bookout, but with no clear go-to guy on the wing, there could be nights when points are hard to come by.

X-FACTOR: Foust came from nowhere to post 10.5-point and 5.2rebound averages over the Sooners' final six games. His development also could lessen the sting of Alexander's departure. An athletic 6-6, Foust can get to the boards and defend. If he turns into a solid scorer, Oklahoma will be tougher to beat. - J.S.

SCHEDUL F

N20 CS Northridge	D11 Northern Colorado	D28 Tulsa	J10 Connecticut	J24 Oklahoma St.	F7 at Oklahoma St.	F21 Kansas
N25-27 Gr. Alaska Shootout	D18 Duke	at Oklahoma City	J15 at Baylor	J29 at Iowa St.	F12 at Missouri	F26 Baylor
D1 Coppin St.	at New York	D30 Florida A&M	J18 at Texas A&M	F2 Texas A&M	F16 Nebraska	F28 at Texas
D8 at Purdue	D23 SW Missouri St.	J2 Texas-Pan Am	J22 Texas	F5 Texas Tech	F19 at Kansas St.	M5 at Texas Tech

5. Iowa State

WHAT WE LIKE: Three returning starters from a team that made an unexpected run to the NIT semifinals is a good place to start. Coach Wayne Morgan will build around Curtis Stinson and Will Blalock, multi-skilled guards who form one of the nation's best young backcourts. Stinson, the Big 12's top freshman, literally took over games en route to averages of 16.2 points and 6.0 rebounds. Blalock was the setup man, although Stinson actually posted more assists. Blalock did lead the Cyclones in 3-point shooting, however, and his attempts per game are sure to increase. Jared Homan, a 6-9 center who averaged 11 points and six rebounds, was one of the conference's most improved players. Either senior Damion Staple or sophomore Robert Faulkner will have to step up big at power forward as a replacement for Jackson Vroman.

WHAT SCARES US: The expectations are different now. Last year's team was expected to struggle, but thumped the likes of Kansas, Texas and Xavier while winning 20 games. Now, we'll see if the Cyclones can handle the spotlight. They could use a little more depth in the frontcourt. They'll be counting on junior college talents Faulkner and Anthony Davis while looking for more consistency from Homan.

X-FACTOR: Morgan was a strong coach of the year candidate. He not only held the program together in tough times, he turned out an unexpected winner. He continued the strong defensive play of former coaches Larry Eustachy and Tim Floyd and added some offensive flair. The Cyclones played with an edge, a confidence that bordered on

cocky, especially in Hilton Coliseum. —B.K. SCHEDULE

SOONERS DATA

Coach: Kelvin Sampson (234-92, 10 years; 337-195 overall, 17 years; NCAA Tournament 10-10).

Assistant coaches: Bennie Seltzer (7 years), Bob Hoffman (1st), Ray McCallum (1st).

2003-04 record: 20-11. Big 12: 8-8/7th. Lost to Michigan in NIT second

Last regular-season title: 1989 (Big Eight).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Norman, Okla. Website: www.soonersports.com

Home court: Lloyd Noble Center (12,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	4-05 st	arter		-			
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34	F	Kevin Bookout*	6-8/259	Jr.	7.6	5.5	0.5	51.6	41.7	_
24	F	Nate Carter	6-7/225	Jr.	UC Ri	versid	e transf	er must	sit out 2	004-05.
20	G	Terrell Everett	6-4/185	Jr.	Slashing guard who is a great passer.					
22	F	Brandon Foust	6-6/211	So.	4.1	2.8	0.4	46.7	61.4	40.0
32	F	Johnnie Gilbert	6-8/228	Sr.	5.3	4.0	0.6	51.2	52.1	_
4	G	David Godbold	6-5/212	Fr.	Likely	deve	lopmen	tal redsh	irt.	
21	F	Taj Gray	6-8/235	Jr.	Fierc	e pres	sence o	n both	ends of	the floor.
3	G	Drew Lavender*	5-7/153	So.	11.3	2.4	3.9	36.8	78.2	36.8
30	F/C	Longar Longar	6-11/215	Fr.	Nice s	ize, ex	cellent	shot blo	cker.	
1	G	Lawrence McKenzi	e* 6-2/175	So.	8.2	2.3	1.2	34.6	75.9	32.1
11	G	Kellen Sampson	6-1/182	Fr.	Devel	opme	ntal rec	shirt las		
44	(Larry Turner	6-11/241	So.	3.2	2.7	0.4	48.0	40.0	-
2	G	Jaison Williams	6-3/181	Sr.	5.8	2.8	1.5	34.4	84.2	31.4
KE	YIC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	De	'Angelo Alexander	6-5/215	9.6	4	.8	1.3	43.9	70.9	37.4
C	Jab	oahri Brown*	6-10/210	7.1	5	.1	1.6	42.8	63.3	60.0
G	Jas	on Detrick*	6-6/215	11.4	2	.9	1.3	39.0	77.3	25.8

G	Jabahri Brown* Jason Detrick*	6-10/210 6-6/215		2.9	1.6	42.8 39.0	63.3	25
ut	J24 Oklahoma St.		at Okla	homa St.		F21 Kar		

CYCLONES DATA

Coach: Wayne Morgan (20-13, 1 year; 111-97 overall, 7 years). Assistant coaches: Bob Sundvold (3 years), Damon Archibald (1), Darryl

2003-04 record: 20-13. Big 12: 7-9/8th. Lost to Rutgers in NIT semifinal. Last regular-season title: 2001.

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Ames, lowa. Website: www.cyclones.com

Home court: James H. Hilton Coliseum (14,092).

ROSTER

*2003-04 starter; bold names: projected 2004-05 starter												
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
30	C	Aaron Agnew	6-9/330	Fr.	Has e	xcelle	nt hand	s and pos	st moves			
34	G	Jeff Bergstrom	6-4/190	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0		
11	G	Will Blalock*	5-11/185	So.	7.5	2.8	4.1	39.8	70.1	43.5		
33	F	Mark Boll	6-5/210	So.	3.0	2.0	0.0	50.0	-	50.0		
40	G	Dave Braet	6-3/185	Sr.	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-	0.0		
10	G	Tasheed Carr	6-5/215	Fr.	Prep:	school	guard (excels at	driving 1	the lane.		
13	F	Rahshon Clark	6-6/195	Fr.	Know	n for	his impr	ressive di	unks.			
24	F	Anthony Davis	6-5/210	Jr.	JC tr	ansfer	is solid	d reboun	der and	defender.		
42	F	Robert Faulkner	6-8/225	So.	JC tra	nsfer	nissed I	ast seaso	n with k	nee injury.		
41	C	Reggie George	6-9/230	So.	1.4	1.3	0.1	50.0	50.0	-		
51	C	Jared Homan*	6-9/245	Sr.	11.1	6.3	0.5	44.3	67.3	20.0		
3	G	John Neal	6-4/190	Jr.	2.1	1.1	0.4	37.5	40.0	37.5		
22	F	Damion Staple	6-8/230	Sr.	4.1	2.8	0.2	49.6	50.0	_		
1	G	Curtis Stinson*	6-2/205	So.	16.2	6.0	4.3	47.9	65.8	28.8		
KE	LC	SSES										
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
G/F	Ma	rcus Jefferson	6-5/200	5.9	3	.6	0.9	43.9	65.2	35.0		
G	Jak	ce Sullivan*	6-1/190	14.6	1	.9	1.6	43.7	93.3	38.3		
F/C	Jac	kson Vroman*	6-10/230	13.9	9	.6	2.3	56.4	50.7	14.3		

N23 Drake	D6 Virginia	D28 San Diego St.	J12 Kansas	J29 Oklahoma	F12 Texas Tech	F27 Nebraska
N26 Bucknell	D10 at lowa	D31 Tennessee St.	J15 at Oklahoma St.	F1 Baylor	F15 Kansas St.	M2 Missouri
N27 Stephen F. Austin	D12 Howard	J3 at Xavier	J22 Colorado	F5 at Texas	F19 at Kansas	M5 at Colorado
D1 at Northern Iowa	D19 Wagner	J8 at Missouri	J26 at Kansas St.	F8 at Nebraska	F22 at Texas A&M	

6. Missouri

WHAT WE LIKE: With the team shaped around Rickey Paulding, Arthur Johnson and Travon Bryant the last two seasons, there was little opportunity to get to know some of the other players. But now they will get their chance. Linas Kleiza, a strong 6-8 power forward whose freshman season ended after 16 games because of a dislocated shoulder, was one of the Big 12's top newcomers. He averaged 11.1 points and 8.4 boards off the bench and muscled up with everybody. VMI transfer Jason Conley struggled early but became one of the team's best offensive players down the stretch. Combo guard Thomas Gardner made some big 3-pointers as a freshman. This group, along with junior guard Jimmy McKinney, is ready to lead.

WHAT SCARES US: Even with senior leadership, Missouri couldn't handle the distractions of the Ricky Clemons mess last season. The NCAA investigation and publicity ate at that talented team, which struggled to meet expectations and settled for an NIT berth. In the Clemons fallout, the Tigers hired two new assistant coaches in veterans Melvin Watkins (Texas A&M) and Jeff Meyer (Butler). But it's still up to players without much college experience to forge ahead.

X-FACTORS: Missouri signed a top 20 class, and all four freshmen need to be part of the rotation. Point guard Jason Horton will get strong starting consideration. Marshall Brown is a prized power forward. This could be a make-or-break year for Quin Snyder. Coming off a messy, underachieving season and playing in a new building, there will be plenty of pressure. —*B.K.*

TIGERS DATA

Coach: Quin Snyder (100-63, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 5-4).
Assistant coaches: Marcus Perez (4 years), Jeff Meyer (1st), Melvin Watkins (1st).

2003-04 record: 16-14. Big 12: 9-7/T5th. Lost to Michigan in NIT first round.

Last regular-season title: 1994 (Big Eight).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Columbia, Mo. Website: www.mutigers.com Home court: Paige Sports Arena (15,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	ojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
15	F	Marshall Brown	6-7/210	Fr.	Solid	playe	r on bot	h ends o	f the co	urt.
2	G	Jason Conley	6-5/212	Sr.	7.6	3.4	1.7	41.9	72.2	34.1
24	G	Brian Dailey	6-3/200	Sr.	0.6	0.2	0.2	100.0	_	100.0
25	G/F	Glen Dandridge	6-6/210	Fr.	Ace 3	-poin	t shoote	r with g	reat size	
32	F/C	Jeffrey Ferguson	6-11/245	Jr.	Sato	ut last	season	because	of visa	problems.
3	G	Thomas Gardner*	6-5/213	So.	6.1	2.1	0.9	37.3	89.7	32.3
44	C	Kalen Grimes	6-8/250	Fr.	Provi	des a	physical	post pre	esence.	
12	G	Jason Horton	6-0/173	Fr.	True	court	leader	fills a b	ig need	
41	F/C	Linas Kleiza	6-8/233	So.	11.1	8.4	0.8	43.8	62.1	34.8
10	G	Spencer Laurie	6-1/178	So.	0.3	0.3	0.8	15.4	33.3	16.7
1	G	Jimmy McKinney*	6-3/208	Jr.	9.4	3.3	3.2	41.0	84.9	37.1
14	F/C	Kevin Young	6-9/263	Jr.	1.2	1.9	0.1	42.9	33.3	_
KEY	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Tra	von Bryant*	6-9/244	10.6	6	6	1.7	51.3	71.8	40.7
C	Art	hur Johnson*	6-9/268	16.4	7	5	1.1	54.8	64.4	0.0
G	Jos	h Kroenke	6-4/195	2.9	1.	2	1.0	38.7	68.8	38.9

SCHEDULE

N15-24 Guardians Classic	D7 Arkansas	at St. Louis	J11 at Oklahoma St.	J26 at Colorado	F9 at UNLV	F22 Colorado
N19 Davidson	D11 Montana	D30 Gonzaga	J15 at Kansas St.	J29 Kansas St.	F12 Oklahoma	F26 at Texas
N28 Murray St.	D19 Indiana	J4 American	J19 Texas Tech	J31 at Kansas	F16 Baylor	M2 at lowa St.
D4 Oakland	D22 Illinois	J8 Iowa St.	J22 Nebraska	F5 at Texas A&M	F19 at Nebraska	M6 Kansas

7. Texas Tech

WHAT WE LIKE: The guard duo of Ronald Ross and Jarrius Jackson form one of the better backcourts in the conference. They were the only Raiders to average in double figures last season besides Big 12 scoring leader Andre Emmett, who is gone. Coach Bob Knight says he doesn't believe in point guards, but he has two good ones. Ross is an efficient scorer and hard-working leader who led the squad in assists (106) and finished fourth in rebounds (3.4 per game). Jackson, one of the league's top freshmen a year ago, committed only 39 turnovers in 34 games, despite averaging 32.5 minutes. Like Ross, he hit 78 percent of his foul shots, plus he shot a respectable 40.7 percent from the floor.

WHAT SCARES US: The departure of Emmett leaves Tech short of star power. Ross and Jackson are fearless, but can they step it up on the road against the Big 12's best? Not likely. Size is another problem for the Raiders. Darryl Dora, who averaged just 3.3 points and 2.6 rebounds, is the tallest player at 6-9. And only 6-8 returning starter Devonne Giles offers experience on the wing. The lack of a true center hurts against the power teams in the league.

X-FACTOR: Knight says players, not sites, determine wins and losses. Well, his players look and play different in road uniforms. Tech has gone 7-17 on the road in conference games under Knight (2-6 in each of the last two seasons), and doesn't figure to do much better without a go-to player. Last season's 15-1 home mark got the Raiders into the NCAA Tournament. That'll be difficult to duplicate, so wins outside United Spirit Arena could determine a postseason destination. —*J.S.*

RED RAIDERS DATA

Rickey Paulding*

Coach: Bob Knight (68-33, 3 years; 832-322 overall, 38 years; NCAA Tournament 43-23; won NCAA titles in 1976, 1981 and 1987).

6-5/218 15.1

4.3

2.8

39.7 78.7

Assistant coaches: Chris Beard (3 years), Pat Knight (3), Stew Robinson (1). 2003-04 record: 23-11. Big 12: 9-7/T5th. Lost to Saint Joseph's in NCAA East Rutherford Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 1986 (tie, SWC). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Lubbock, Texas. Website: www.texastech.com Home court: United Spirit Arena (15,098).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
5	G	Drew Coffman	6-1/175	So.	0.6	0.5	1.2	9.5	60.0	9.1
44	F	Darryl Dora	6-9/235	So.	3.3	2.6	0.9	40.2	62.5	28.6
21	F	Devonne Giles*	6-8/225	Sr.	8.9	5.0	0.9	45.8	80.4	_
42	F	Philip Harbaugh	6-8/200	Fr.	Hard-	workir	ig play	er from (Oregon.	
22	G	Jarrius Jackson*	6-1/185	So.	11.3	2.7	2.6	40.7	77.8	31.6
32	G	Curtis Marshall	6-5/190	Sr.	2.6	1.1	0.2	30.6	65.0	57.1
35	F	John Ofoegbu	6-8/231	So.	Redsh	irted i	n 2003	-04.		
31	F	Tanner Ogden	6-7/220	So.	0.3	0.5	0.3	100.0	100.0	_
24	G	Ronald Ross*	6-2/185	Sr.	10.1	3.4	3.1	49.3	78.1	35.4
41	F	Damir Suljagic	6-8/235	Fr.	Avera	ged 18	.5 ppg	10.0 rp	as a H.	s. senio
33	G	LucQuente White	6-0/176	So.	1.5	0.7	1.3	95.4	38.5	31.8
3	G/F	Martin Zeno	6-5/190	Fr.	Was I	ouisia	ana Cla	ess 5A P	layer of	the Yea

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G/F	Andre Emmett*	6-5/229	20.6	6.6	1.8	52.6	73.0	35.6	
G/F	Michael Marshall	6-4/228	5.1	2.4	1.2	53.6	77.1	51.4	
F	Robert Tomaszek*	6-9/240	7.4	4.3	2.4	48.0	71.1	15.4	
G	Josh Washington	6-3/196	2.4	0.4	0.4	45.9	96.2	37.5	
F	Joseph Works	6-6/220	3.4	2.1	0.2	44.6	61.7	0.0	

N19 UNC-Asheville	D4 at UTEP	D21 Iowa	J4 Northern Colorado	J19 at Missouri	F5 at Oklahoma	F19 at Oklahoma St.	M5 Oklahoma
N23 at TCU	D7 Northern Arizona	at Chicago	J8 Oklahoma St.	J25 at Texas	F9 Baylor	F22 Texas	
N27 Centenary	D16 Ohio St.	D29 Georgia St.	J12 at Kansas St.	J29 Nebraska	F12 at lowa St.	F26 at Texas A&M	
D1 SMU	at Dallas	J1 San Francisco	J15 Texas A&M	F2 Colorado	F14 Kansas	M2 at Baylor	

8. Kansas State

WHAT WE LIKE: After a rough start, junior college transfer Jeremiah Massey calmed down, became more patient on offense and transformed into one of the league's better players. Massey wound up leading K-State in scoring and rebounding and was named the Big 12's top newcomer. He will be the focal point of a team looking to return to postseason play for the first time since 1996. Two straight highly rated recruiting classes have raised the bar in Manhattan, and now it's time to deliver. The three top returnees—Massey and forwards Marques Hayden and Cartier Martin—are products of those classes. Look for two newcomers—Fred Peete, a JC transfer whose strength is his shooting, and freshman Clent Stewart—to start.

WHAT SCARES US: K-State has entered other seasons with optimism, only to be crushed by a horrid nonconference loss. Last year it was a 41-point mugging by Missouri-Kansas City. It's often a case of focus and motivation, obstacles coach Jim Wooldridge has to overcome. K-State didn't win consecutive games in league play until season's end, and then it was too late. Past teams have not had that all-conference-caliber player who can take over games. Massey is a good a candidate to fill that role.

X-FACTOR: Wooldridge, who got a contract extension a few days after the Wildcats were eliminated from the Big 12 tournament, has completed four years with K-State. Now it's time to produce. Current athletic director Tim Weiser did not hire Wooldridge and will not heistate to make a change if the team doesn't show progress—maybe even qualify for postseason play—this season. —*B.K.*

WILDCATS DATA

Coach: Jim Wooldridge (51-65, 4 years; 149-164 overall, 11 seasons; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Assistant coaches: Mike Miller (4 years), Charles Baker (4), Jimmy

Elgas (4).

2003-04 record: 14-14. Big 12: 6-10/T9th. Last regular-season title: 1977 (Big Eight).

Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Manhattan, Kan. Website: www.k-statesports.com

Home court: Bramlage Coliseum (13,500).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE			-			1220	200
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G	Curtis Allen	6-4/190	Fr.	Explo	sive a	thlete w	ho's a pl	aymakei	
40	F	Travis Canby	6-10/255	Sr.	0.8	1.0	0.4	66.7	-	-
21	F	Dramane Diarra	6-8/245	Sr.	1.2	1.2	0.0	38.9	55.6	-
24	G	Mark Frederick	6-5/191	Sr.	1.2	0.4	0.0	75.0	_	-
3	G	Lance Harris	6-5/185	So.	2.1	0.9	0.6	28.8	42.9	23.8
23	F	Marques Hayden*	6-7/235	Jr.	8.0	6.5	1.0	53.4	62.5	50.0
55	F	Tyler Hughes	6-11/230	So.	1.1	1.2	0.3	53.3	0.0	_
20	F	Cartier Martin	6-8/215	So.	6.9	3.0	1.1	39.5	62.2	34.7
15	F	Jeremiah Massey*	6-7/215	Sr.	14.7	7.8	1.2	49.7	74.1	50.0
12	G	Fred Peete	6-4/200	So.	Third	l-tean	NJCA	A All-Am	erican.	
5	G	Clent Stewart	6-4/180	Fr.	Guar	d fron	n Tulsa	has nice	e shooti	ng touc
1	G	Schyler Thomas	6-0/185	Jr.	1.1	0.4	0.2	50.0	50.0	14.3
54	F	Justin Williams	6-10/245	Sr.	4.0	3.2	0.3	47.4	60.3	_
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	96	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tin	n Ellis*	6-4/175	13.8	5	.1	2.1	50.7	81.2	34.8
G		rett Hart*	6-5/210	10.9		.6	3.1	39.4	77.4	39.4
G		nk Richards*	6-2/190	5.5		.1	3.6	35.7	74.5	18.2
G		z Willingham	5-11/170	4.4		.5	2.8	36.0	30.0	36.8

SCHEDULE

N19 North Dakota St.	D6 Oakland	D21 Northern Illinois	J12 Texas Tech	J29 at Missouri	F12 at Texas	F26 at Colorado
N24 Denver	D11 Wyoming	D28 Rutgers	J15 Missouri	F2 at Oklahoma St.	F15 at lowa St.	M2 at Kansas
N27 Washington St.	at Casper, Wyo.	D30 Eastern Illinois	J22 at Texas A&M	F5 Colorado	F19 Oklahoma	M5 Nebraska
N29 Arkansas-Pine Bluff	D18 Texas-San Antonio	J8 at Nebraska	J26 Iowa St.	F9 Kansas	F23 Baylor	

9. Texas A6M

WHAT WE LIKE: New coach Billy Gillispie, who guided UTEP to a startling 24-8 turnaround and NCAA Tournament bid in 2003-04 after a 6-24 debut, will try to perform the same magic for A&M. Offense was a key for Gillispie, who thrilled UTEP fans with an uptempo, free-wheeling style. He takes over an Aggies squad that managed only seven wins while averaging a paltry 66.4 points in an 0-16 conference season. No one will outwork Gillispie. And as a former Texas high school coach, he eventually should be able to dent the Longhorns' hold on in-state recruiting. Aggies fans will love that.

WHAT SCARES US: There is only one senior on the roster, and Bobby Leach is a junior college transfer who did not play particularly well a year ago. This is a conference that values experience, particularly when playing on the road. The Aggies do return four players who averaged double-figure minutes, including returning starters Antoine Wright and point guard Acie Law. But the team likely will count on newcomers to fill out the starting rotation: talented freshman Joseph Jones and junior college transfers Marcus McIntosh and Edjuan Green, who should provide help on the boards.

X-FACTOR: Despite a horrid sophomore season, Wright is considered one of the conference's top talents. He looked confused and unsure last season under coach Melvin Watkins, often showing reluctance to dominate the ball, though it was obvious no one else could produce consistently. The 6-7 swing man appears primed to re-establish himself as a top player. He better, or the Aggies will battle Baylor for last place. —*J.S.*

AGGIES DATA

Coach: Billy Gillispie (1st year; 30-32 overall, 2 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Assistant coaches: Alvin Brooks (1st year), Buzz Williams (1st).

2003-04 record: 7-21. Big 12: 0-16/12th. Last regular-season title: 1986 (tie, SWC).

Last NCAA appearance: 1987.

Site: College Station, Texas. Website: www.aggieathletics.com

Home court: Reed Arena (12,500).

ROSTER

HU.	51	EH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
11	F	Luis Clemente	6-8/225	Jr.	2.6	1.8	0.2	41.8	83.3	-
4	F	Edjuan Green	6-7/230	Jr.	JC tra	ansfe	r is a m	onster	on the b	oards.
30	F/C	Joseph Jones	6-9/250	Fr.	First-	team	all-sta	te in Tex	cas as a	senior.
22	G	Dominique Kirk	6-3/180	Fr.	Poste	d five	triple-d	oubles a	sa H.S.	senior.
1	G	Acie Law*	6-3/180	So.	7.5	2.1	3.9	38.7	75.9	21.6
30	G	Bobby Leach	6-0/180	Sr.	3.5	1.3	2.8	38.8	67.6	31.3
33	G	Justin Loewe	6-4/200	So.	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	0.0
2	G	Marcus McIntosh	6-0/180	So.	A JC	trans	fer with	prover	scoring	g ability.
42	F	Marlon Pompey	6-8/225	So.	1.7	0.7	0.3	81.8	28.6	-
40	F	Slade Weishuhn	6-9/205	Fr.	Tallie	d 8.2	bpg last	season.		
5	G	Kenneth White	6-2/190	Fr.	Prolif	ic sco	rer can p	lay both	guard s	pots.
21	G/F	Antoine Wright*	6-7/205	Jr.	13.5	4.1	2.3	36.8	62.6	29.7
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	_	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Nic	k Anderson	6-6/230	5.4	4.	.0	0.5	44.4	58.5	38.5
G	L.C	Garcia-Morales*	6-1/180	6.5	2.	3	1.9	42.4	80.6	34.9
F	Jes	se King*	6-7/225	11.7	5.	6	0.6	43.5	78.9	29.7
(dy Slocum*	7-0/275	7.9	8.	.8	0.8	47.3	62.3	22.2
G		vin Turner	6-2/175	8.0	1.	6	0.7	33.9	87.5	43.0
G	Ma	arcus Watkins	6-4/190	2.4	1.	9	0.7	49.1	46.4	-

N19 North Carolina A&T	D11 Alabama A&M	D29 Houston	J15 at Texas Tech	J29 Baylor	F16 at Texas	M2 at Oklahoma St.
	D15 Louisiana-Monroe	J2 at Penn St.	J18 Oklahoma	F2 at Oklahoma	F19 at Colorado	M5 at Baylor
N23 Trinity				F5 Missouri	F22 Iowa St.	mo at baylor
D1 Oakland	D19 Chicago St.	J5 at Kansas	J22 Kansas St.	100000000		
D4 Prairie View A&M	D22 Grambling	J12 Texas	J26 at Nebraska	F12 Oklahoma St.	F26 Texas Tech	

10. Nebraska

WHAT WE LIKE: After three years of little progress under Barry Collier, the 2003-04 Huskers suddenly bought into his system based on smart shots and hard-nosed defense. And Collier got a contract extension after his Cornhuskers finished 18-13. The team has proven talent in guards Jake Muhleisen and Marcus Neal, swingman Corey Simms and rugged forward John Turek. The mystery man will be freshman center Aleks Maric, a 6-11, 265-pound Australian who led his country to the 2003 19-under world championship.

WHAT SCARES US: It's never easy to move from the bottom half to top half of the Big 12, and the Cornhuskers must replace their top two scorers—guard Nate Johnson and forward Brian Conklin, who led the Big 12 in 3-point percentage. Johnson was a catalyst, and Nebraska will be looking for that type of player this season. Also, the Huskers don't play well outside the Devaney Center. They were 1-7 last season in road conference games, beating only Texas A&M.

X-FACTORS: Here's the ultimate one: Junior college transfer Marcus Perry picked Nebraska because he and his wife were sold on the daycare options for their daughter. Perry, who averaged 25.4 points last season at Southern Union State Community College in Alabama, could be the starting point guard. Collier has proved he can win with a sumis-greater-than-the-parts approach, and this is his best recruiting class yet. Having some postseason success in the NIT should help players buy in to Collier's system. The only downside to that success is the Cornhuskers suddenly have expectations to live up to. —*B.K.*

CORNHUSKERS DATA

Coach: Barry Collier (56-63, 4 years; 252-195 overall, 15 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Assistant coaches: Reggie Rankin (4 years), Doug Novsek (2), Scott

2003-04 record: 18-13. Big 12: 6-10/T9th. Lost to Hawaii in NIT second

Last regular-season title: 1950 (Big Eight).

Last NCAA appearance: 1998.
Site: Lincoln, Neb. Website: www.huskers.com
Home court: Bob Devaney Sports Center (13,595).

ROSTER

lo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
31	C	Aleks Maric	6-11/265	Fr.	Prep	stand	dout co	uld fill h	ole in th	ne middle
2	G	Joe McCray	6-5/195	Fr.	Shot	49.4%	from 3	-point ra	inge last	season.
12	G	Jake Muhleisen*	6-4/200	Sr.	7.7	3.3	1.7	46.7	78.6	35.5
10	G	Marcus Neal*	6-0/180	Sr.	5.3	1.8	2.0	40.4	75.8	35.1
4	G	Marcus Perry	6-2/180	Jr.	JC All	-Ame	rican ho	norable	mention	1.
3	G	Charles Richardson	5-9/155	So.	2.2	2.0	2.1	40.9	69.4	42.9
15	F	Bronsen Schliep	6-7/215	Jr.	1.6	0.8	0.3	58.3	55.6	-
21	G/F	Corey Simms	6-5/205	Sr.	4.8	3.6	1.3	45.4	62.3	18.2
5	F	Shuan Stegall	6-6/225	So.	1.0	0.6	0.1	57.1	33.3	100.0
14	F	John Turek*	6-9/245	Sr.	9.8	5.9	0.9	46.0	69.8	0.0
45	C	Tony Wilbrand	6-10/250	Jr.	1.0	0.9	0.2	90.0	62.5	-
11	F	Wes Wilkinson	6-9/215	Jr.	2.3	1.4	0.5	45.9	50.0	35.0
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Dar	Mar	44	HA MHA	DDC	Dr		ADC	FC0/	FT0/	207

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	Brian Conklin	6-11/240	8.0	3.8	1.2	53.3	90.9	55.9	
F	Andrew Drevo*	6-8/250	10.8	4.3	1.7	45.7	76.3	31.4	
G	Nate Johnson*	6-2/180	13.0	4.6	1.6	46.9	86.6	41.0	

SCHEDULE

N23 Arkansas-Pine Bluff	D8 Minnesota	D30 at Tennessee	J15 Texas	J29 at Texas Tech	F12 at Baylor	F27 at Iowa St.
N27 Texas Southern	D11 Creighton	J2 Montana St.	J19 at Kansas	F1 Utah Valley St.	F16 at Oklahoma	M2 Colorado
D2 at UAB	D18 North Carolina A&T	J8 Kansas St.	J22 at Missouri	F5 Kansas	F19 Missouri	M5 at Kansas St.
D5 Morgan St.	D21 at Marquette	J12 at Colorado	J26 Texas A&M	F8 Iowa St.	F22 Oklahoma St.	

11. Colorado

WHAT WE LIKE: This team will be a blank canvas for coach Ricardo Patton—who will bring plenty of fire after last year's NCAA snub—and that can be a good thing. There should be true position battles. Nobody is a lock to start. Gone are the top four scorers from a year ago. Some of the returning guards, such as Jayson Obazuaye and Marcus Hall, have talent, but there's no guarantee that Hall will start.

WHAT SCARES US: Choosing from among essentially eight new-comers (including medical redshirt Keith Smith), Patton pretty much is starting over. The staff swung into action and signed 6-11 center Lamont Arrington; he joins another junior college signee, 6-9 Julius Ashby, up front. There's a chance the Buffs could start as many as four new faces: freshman Richard Roby and junior college transfer Martane Freeman on the wing, with Ashby and Arrington or Andy Osborn (Loyola Marymount transfer) up front. Continuity hasn't been a strong suit in the Patton eras, but he always gets his new group to the postseason eventually. This squad will spend the year finding chemistry and could take another year to develop.

X-FACTOR: With center David Harrison off to the NBA, look for Colorado to change from an inside-outside attack to a more perimeter-oriented one. The inside game got the Buffs to an NCAA Tournament and NIT, but Patton's teams also have been effective on the fly. Colorado usually ranks among the league leaders in 3-point percentage, but with Harrison gone the Buffs won't repeat as the Big 12 leader in blocked shots. —*B.K.*

BUFFALOES DATA

Coach: Ricardo Patton (143-114, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Assistant coaches: Jason Shelton (4 years), Paul Graham (1), Paul Sather (1st year).

2003-04 record: 18-11. Big 12: 10-6/4th. Lost to Oregon in NIT first round.

Last regular-season title: 1969. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Boulder, Colo. Website: www.cubuffs.com Home court: Coors Events Conference Center (11, 064).

ROSTER

10		L11								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
30	F/C	Lamont Arrington	6-11/205	Jr.	Trans	fer sho	uld he	p fill the	void at	center.
33	F/C	Julius Ashby	6-9/220	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer h	as playe	ed basket	ball just t	three years.
2	G	Billy Boidock	6-0/150	Jr.	Recei	ved litt	le play	ing time	last sea	son.
15	F	Chris Copeland	6-8/225	Jr.	2.9	2.5	0.5	37.9	59.4	39.9
1	F	Glean Eddy	6-5/200	Jr.	5.0	3.6	1.0	43.6	66.2	34.2
12	F	Martane Freeman	6-7/195	Jr.	19.1	ppq, 9.	1 rpq, 3	.0 steals	as a JC se	phomore.
21	G	Marcus Hall	6-1/175	So.	5.0	1.3	1.6	43.7	43.2	39.1
32	F	M. King-Stockton	6-9/205	Fr.	Shot	blocker	has gi	reat read	n.	
43	G	Mac Mattingly	6-1/180	Sr.	H.S. ti	ack ath	lete ha	sn't recei	ved man	y minutes.
42	G	Antoine McGee	5-10/180	Jr.	1.8	0.9	1.7	41.3	48.0	50.0
5	G	Jayson Obazuaye*	6-2/190	Jr.	5.5	2.1	1.5	42.4	49.1	26.3
4	F	Andy Osborn	6-9/230	Jr.	Trans	fer fron	n Loyo	la Maryn	nount.	
23	G	Richard Roby	6-6/190	Fr.	Team	went a	89-15 i	n his hig	h school	career.
10	F	Scott Senger	6-7/205	Jr.	1.8	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
34	G/F	Keith Smith	6-6/220	Fr.	Redsh	nirt rea	dy to p	lay after	two foot	surgeries.
KE	/ LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Lar	nar Harris*	6-7/205	7.2	8	.5	1.7	50.6	66.2	-
C	Day	vid Harrison*	7-0/250	17.1	8	.8	0.8	63.1	53.9	0.0
G/F	Mic	thel Morandais*	6-5/200	16.1	4	4	3.1	40.6	85.6	36.9
G/F	Bla	ir Wilson*	6-6/220	12.3	3	3	1.7	40.7	77.1	39.5

N15-26 Preseason NIT	D18 Colorado St.	D30 at Utah	J15 Kansas	J30 Oklahoma St.	F12 at Kansas	F26 Kansas St.
N29 Northwestern	D21 UMKC	J4 at Richmond	J19 at Baylor	F2 at Texas Tech	F14 South Dakota St.	M2 at Nebraska
D4 at Oregon St.	D23 Radford	J8 at Oklahoma	J22 at Iowa St.	F5 at Kansas St.	F19 Texas A&M	M5 Iowa St.
D7 at California	D28 Gardner-Webb	J12 Nebraska	J26 Missouri	F8 Texas	F22 at Missouri	

12. Baylor

WHAT WE LIKE: The Bears never quit last season, despite their trying off-court problems and a lack of talent. And it's probably safe to say they will play hard again. With the limited talent remaining from a oncepromising roster depleted by transfers, new coach Scott Drew coaxed three conference wins from his surprising team, including a sweep of Texas A&M. The last-place finish predicted by most was avoided and Drew was accorded generous reviews. While 11th place normally is nothing to brag about, remember that this team lost three starters just as classes were beginning last fall and played much of the season with only a handful of scholarship players. As was the case a year ago, a last-place finish is predicted, and every Big 12 win will be regarded as an upset.

WHAT SCARES US: Oddly, the Bears have fewer players returning to this year's team than they did last year in the aftermath of the Patrick Dennehy scandal and the firing of coach Dave Bliss. Eight lettermen are gone from last year's 8-21 entry and Tommy Swanson is the Bears' only returning scholarship player. A junior, four sophomores and two freshmen comprise the Bears' seven scholarship players. The team has little depth and little hope of competing with Big 12 powers.

X-FACTORS: No two players expected to be in the rotation ever have played together, so chemistry is the foremost issue next to talent. One early key could be Roscoe Biggers, a transfer from Globe Institute of Technology (N.Y.) who is expected to take over as the Bears' starting point guard. Another could be junior college transfer Patrick Fields, a mobile swingman. -J.S.

BEARS DATA

Coach: Scott Drew (8-21, 1 year; 28-32 overall, 2 years).

Assistant coaches: Matthew Driscoll (1 year), Mark Morefield (1), Jerome Tang (1).

2003-04 record: 8-21. Big 12: 3-13/11th. Last regular-season title: 1950 (tie, SWC).

Last NCAA appearance: 1988.

Site: Waco, Texas. Website: www.baylorbears.com

Home court: Ferrell Center (10,284).

	511		-1	00-			_	-	_	_
Vo.		starter; bold names: pr Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	G.	Will Allen	6-2/185	Jr.	1.6	0.8	0.2	30.8	83.3	33.3
3	G	Roscoe Biggers	5-11/195	So.					last se	
14	G	Aaron Bruce	6-2/190	Fr.					21 natio	
20	F	Tim Bush	6-5/245	So.					ear fron	
15	c	Mamadou Diene	7-0/215	Fr.					nas nice	
10	G/F	Patrick Fields	6-5/190	So.					center.	
13	G/F		6-5/180	Fr.				jumper.		
22	F	Richard Hurd	6-5/190	Fr.					nd, Texa	5.
4	G	Turner Phipps	6-1/190	So.	0.6	0.2	0.1	36.4	75.0	20.0
2	G	Ryan Pryor	6-2/170	Sr.	0.4	0.2	0.3	33.3	_	33.3
40	F	Mark Shepherd	6-8/210	Fr.	Walk-	on wa	s redsh	irted las	t season	
12	G	Kevis Shipman	6-1/175	Jr.	Relen	tless	worker	who ha	as a nic	e shot.
32	C	Tommy Swanson*	6-9/200	Jr.	6.4	4.1	0.4	45.0	66.2	26.7
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	R.T	Guinn	6-10/245	8.9	4.	4	1.1	47.1	62.5	31.2
F	Cor	ey Herring	6-4/195	7.4	3.	4	1.3	44.1	62.1	25.0
F	Elli	s Kidd Jr.	6-4/180	13.4	4.	0	2.4	43.4	83.3	30.2
G	Car	l Marshall*	5-10/165	4.0	1.	1	0.8	46.5	70.0	38.1
G	Ma	tt Sayman*	6-4/205	8.2	4.	3	4.0	37.8	71.4	31.3
F	Ha	rvey Thomas*	6-8/205	15.6	5.	5	1.2	43.1	69.5	26.3
F	Ter	rance Thomas*	6-6/230	15.9	6	9	3.2	41.1	74.3	33.8

SCHEDULE

N22	Hillsdale Free Will Baptist	D16 at SMU	D30	at Purdue	J15	Oklahoma	J29	at Texas A&M	F12	Nebraska	F26	at Oklahoma
N24	Louisiana-Monroe	D18 Southern	13	Chicago St.	J19	Colorado	F1	at Iowa State	F16	at Missouri	M2	Texas Tech
D1	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	D22 Maryland-Eastern Shore	19	at Texas	J22	at Oklahoma St.	F5	Oklahoma St.	F19	Texas	M5	Texas A&M
D4	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	D28 Prairie View A&M	J13	Savannah St.	J25	Kansas	F9	at Texas Tech	F23	at Kansas St.		

ONE ON ONE WITH ... SEAN SUTTON

Sutton is entering his 12th season as an assistant coach at Oklahoma State and eventually will replace his father, Eddie, as head coach.

TSN: How much is losing Tony Allen going to hurt? SS: It's a tremendous loss considering he impacted the game so much on both ends of the floor.

TSN: Who will fill his role?

SS: Joey Graham really blossomed late last year, and we anticipate him having a big, big season.

TSN: Will Joey Graham move permanently from power forward to the wing?

SS: The plans are to move him to the wing, and we'd like to play with a bigger lineup, but if that's not working, we always have the flexibility to put him on the front line.

TSN: How much will newcomer Aaron Pettway influence how that works?

SS: We're counting on Pettway and Frans (Steyn) to play a lot of minutes on the front line. They're different types of players. With Frans, you have a very big, powerful player. And he's gotten better and has a chance to have a breakout type of season. And then Pettway is somebody who is athletic and a great runner and tremendous shot-blocker.

TSN: Pettway is pretty raw. (He didn't play high school basketball.) Is he going to have to make big strides?

SS: We'll start working with him right away, but that's going to be a major focus of his development—his offensive skills.

TSN: How much of a factor will JamesOn Curry be this year? SS: He'll have a chance to play a lot. There's a possibility for him to break the starting lineup.



TSN: How crucial is having Ivan McFarlin back?

SS: We never worried much that he was going to leave. He loves Oklahoma State, and he needs another year of college. He's been one of the hardest-working players, on and off the court, we've ever had. And for him to come in as a partial qualifier and get his degree in 31/2 years—that's a great story. It's all about his attitude and the way he approaches

TSN: Is this the year that it's all going to come together?

SS: I told our team this the other night: Last year, they had an unbelievable season, and one of the reasons was that they were very unselfish and they came to the

practice court every day with the idea that they were going to get better. ... As a group, they handled success better than any team we'd ever had here. They never got too high and kept their focus to the end. This year one thing we're concerned about is that we have six seniors, and everybody wants to have a great senior season. I'm not sure there's ever been a team at Oklahoma State, in basketball, that had the pressure and expectations on them that this team is going to have on them.

TSN: If it goes well, will Eddie hang it up, and does that have anything to do with the added pressure?

SS: I don't think he will, but that's certainly a possibility. But I don't think that will factor into the pressure as much as what our fans are hoping for. I think they all expect us to be in St. Louis (for the Final Four). There's nothing wrong with that, but it's harder to get back. That's certainly the goal, though. -Corrie Anderson

National rank 4 By Kyle Veltrop

SEC

Better NCAA results should be expected in the near future

n NBA draft night, no SEC player heard his name called until Mississippi's Justin Reed went to the Celtics with the 40th pick. The only conference players to follow were Vanderbilt's Matt Freije (Heat, 53) and Georgia's Rashad Wright (Pacers, 59). But instead of that being a disappointing night for the league, it was an encouraging one. That's because the players who would have drawn firstround interest decided to spend another year on SEC campuses.

Lawrence Roberts pulled out of the draft and will return for his senior season. He is among the preseason favorites for national player of the year, and Mississippi

State should remain a national power. LSU's Brandon Bass also removed his name from the early entry list and should be one of the nation's top power players as a sophomore.

Kennedy Winston opted not to declare for the draft. Alabama had been burned by talented players leaving early in recent years (Gerald Wallace, Rod Grizzard, Maurice Williams). High-scoring Anthony Roberson also considered testing the waters before deciding to return to Florida.

■ Because they are big, highly touted freshmen, Glenn Davis and Randolph Morris likely would have been first-round picks. But instead of rotting on NBA benches, Davis will play at LSU and Morris at Kentucky.

The SEC's recent downturn has included numerous NCAA Tournament crashes. But a wealth of promising players and potentially top-shelf teams signal a likely reversal of postseason fortune in 2005.

ASCENDING: Alabama. The 2003-04 Crimson Tide went from preseason after-thought to late-season bubble team to the Elite Eight, knocking off No. 1-seed Stanford and defending national champion Syracuse along the way. The momentum should continue. The multiskilled Winston has the potential to dominate. Earnest Shelton is an excellent complementary option. Chuck Davis was vastly improved as a sophomore. If big man Jermareo Davidson makes similar strides in his second season—and if an adequate replacement is found for point guard Antoine Pettway—big things await.

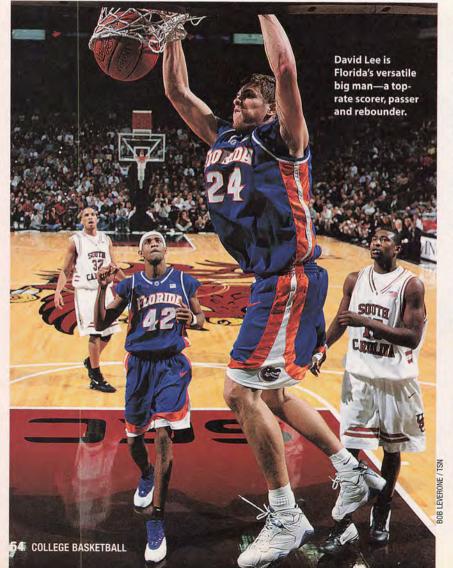
DESCENDING: Vanderbilt. There will be worse teams in the league (Georgia, Mississippi and Auburn). But 23-win seasons and Sweet 16 trips for Vandy are rare. Freije, the leading scorer in school history, is gone. And when he struggled last year, so did the Commodores. Case in point: He shot 3-for-18 against Connecticut in the NCAAs—and Vandy lost by 20. Mario Moore is a nice little player, but a drop-off is inevitable.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Gary Ervin, G, Mississippi State. The Bulldogs, who had the top offense in the SEC last year and often ran a beautiful transition offense, will go even faster. Ervin is one of the quickest players in college basketball, and after a season of spot duty, he will be given the ball and told to run.

2. Ronnie Brewer, G/F, Arkansas. It hurt the Razorbacks to lose recruit Al Jefferson to the NBA, but they still have a nice young nucleus. Brewer was a strong scorer, passer and rebounder as a freshman, when he outperformed more highly touted classmate Olu Famutimi. Brewer excels at getting to the basket. A Brewer-Jonathon Modica 1-2 punch could lead Arkansas back to the NCAAs.

3. Kelenna Azubuike, F, Kentucky. The Wildcats have a great glue guy in Chuck Hayes and a ridiculously talented group of



2003-04 STANDINGS Conference Overall W **East Division** Kentucky 13 27 Florida 20 11 South Carolina 23 11 Vanderbilt 23 10 Georgia 16 14 Tennessee 9 14 15 **West Division** Mississippi State 14 26 4 Alabama 20 13 LSU 18 11 Auburn 11 14 14 Mississippi 11 13 15 Arkansas 12 12 16

- 1. Kentucky: Three top 20 prospects get help from big-time transfer Patrick Sparks. The deep backcourt could lead to a three-guard offense. Big Randolph Morris could be the key in the next national title run.
- 2. Florida: Three athletic forwards lead a class with four top 100 prospects. Al Horford and Joakim Noah will battle for inside spots. Taurean Green is a tough floor leader. Corey Brewer could take time to develop.
- 3. Louisiana State: Wingmen Garrett Temple and Tyrus Thomas will add depth, but "Big Baby" Glen Davis is all that. He will be a dominant inside presence from Day 1 and has a great work ethic.
- 4. Alabama: JC stud Jean Felix will take offensive pressure off Kennedy Winston. Guards Ron Steele, Albert Weber and Glenn Miles will give the Crimson Tide quality backcourt play.
- 5. Arkansas: The Hogs lost big-time recruit Al Jefferson to the NBA, but 6-11 Steven Hill and 6-10 Darian Townes will battle for a starting spot. Big-bodied wing Charles Thomas has solid offensive tools.
- 6. Mississippi State: Jerrell Houston, Charles Rhodes and Walter Sharpe are athletic forwards. Sharpe could be the sleeper; he has big skills to go with his 6-10 size. JC point Jamall Edmondson can deliver the rock.
- 7. Vanderbilt: 6-9 Alan Metcalfe and 6-9 Davis Nwankwo will provide a solid, if young, low-post game.
- 8. South Carolina: The prep signees need seasoning, but JC Antoine Tisby is ready to hit the glass.
- 9. Auburn: The Tigers get backcourt depth, and forward Ryan Daniel could be a surprise off the bench.
- 10. Tennessee: Shooter Chris Lofton can play, but Andre Patterson could be a difference-maker right away.
- 11. Georgia: Sundiata Gaines and Channing Toney are competitors who will get minutes as freshmen.
- 12. Mississippi: Physical rebounder Jeremy Parnell will compete for a starting spot.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

newcomers—including transfer Patrick Sparks—but it likely will be the versatile Azubuike who is the No. 1 offensive option. He will take those clutch shots that normally were reserved for Gerald Fitch.

BEST BETS:

1. The coaching hot seat will produce some smoke. LSU's John Brady has gathered some talent; in back-to-back seasons, he has landed hyped big men Bass and Davis. Now, he needs to win. Mississippi has gone 9-23 in the SEC over the last two years, and another poor season could put Rod Barnes in jeopardy. Another first-weekend exit from the NCAA Tournament probably wouldn't put Billy Donovan in trouble, but

it would turn up the heat in Gainesville. 2. South Carolina won't wow you, but it will win enough to earn its second straight NCAA Tournament bid. Why? Defense. The Gamecocks had the best defense in the conference a year ago-and they will again. The offense isn't great, but winning ugly beats losing pretty.

3. The SEC's string of disappointing NCAA showings will end. The conference is in solid position to place its first team in the Final Four since 2000 (Florida). Mississippi State, Kentucky and Alabama all have enough going for them to make a St. Louis run.

E-mail associate editor Kyle Veltrop at kveltrop@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Mississippi State	30	46.5	66.4	35.4	41.0	13.9	9.3	4.4	15.3	77.3
Florida	31	48.2	75.0	37.7	34.9	15.9	6.5	3.2	14.6	76.4
Kentucky	32	47.2	69.7	35.7	36.2	15.8	7.8	3.4	14.6	73.9
Vanderbilt	33	44.9	71.1	36.7	34.8	16.4	7.5	3.4	12.7	73.2
Alabama	33	45.1	70.9	37.8	34.8	12.0	6.5	3.4	12.8	72.1
Tennessee	29	44.1	72.5	34.7	36.8	15.0	6.0	3.3	15.0	71.1
South Carolina	34	43.4	67.4	32.7	36.0	14.7	8.8	5.2	13.2	70.1
Auburn	28	43.8	66.3	34.1	37.2	15.3	8.7	4.8	16.0	70.0
Arkansas	28	41.6	67.9	31.4	34.5	13.0	7.9	3.9	13.8	68.9
Georgia	30	42.5	70.6	34.2	34.4	13.2	8.0	3.2	15.2	66.5
LSU	29	44.1	65.5	33.6	36.7	11.9	6.1	4.2	14.7	66.3
Mississippi	28	43.5	65.0	33.5	30.3	13.4	7.0	2.1	13.1	63.2

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
South Carolina	34	39.4	68.2	29.2	37.0	12.2	6.8	2.5	16.4	62.6
Kentucky	32	40.3	71.6	32.8	31.4	11.2	7.2	3.1	15.9	63.6
LSU	29	41.5	64.8	35.0	33.1	11.6	7.4	2.8	12.3	63.8
Vanderbilt	33	41.1	71.6	34.6	34.3	12.2	6.2	3.3	15.2	65.0
Mississippi	28	43.2	70.2	36.2	33.4	11.5	6.3	3.8	14.9	65.4
Auburn	28	43.4	66.5	36.5	32.7	13.0	8.1	2.8	16.4	65.6
Georgia	30	45.2	66.3	33.2	31.9	14.0	7.4	2.5	15.4	65.7
Mississippi State	30	41.1	64.4	35.7	33.1	11.7	7.2	3.3	16.3	66.6
Alabama	33	41.7	69.8	35.9	34.2	11.7	4.8	3.7	13.2	68.0
Arkansas	28	43.4	66.4	33.9	36.7	13.7	5.8	3.3	16.5	68.6
Florida	31	41.5	67.2	32.7	34.1	14.4	7.4	3.2	13.5	69.3
Tennessee	29	43.4	67.9	34.8	33.7	15.5	7.9	3.2	13.2	70.9

PREDICTIONS

East Division	West Division
1. Kentucky*	1. Mississippi St.*
2. Florida*	2. Alabama*
3. South Carolina*	3.LSU*
4. Tennessee	4. Arkansas
5. Vanderbilt	5. Auburn
6. Georgia	6. Mississippi
	*NCAA tourney pick

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM Ht. Wt. Class Pos. Name, school 6-7 200 So. G/F Ronnie Brewer, Arkansas Chuck Haves, Kentucky 6-6 247 Sr. 6-6 205 Jr. Kennedy Winston, Alabama 6-9 235 Sr. F/C Lawrence Roberts, Miss. St.

Brandon Bass, LSU

SE	COND TEAM				
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class	
G	Anthony Roberson, Florida	6-1	180	Jr.	
G	Earnest Shelton, Alabama	6-3	200	Sr.	
G	Scooter McFadgon, Tennessee	6-5	207	Sr.	
G/F	Kelenna Azubuike, Kentucky	6-5	208	Jr.	
F	Carlos Powell South Carolina	6-7	220	Sr.	

6-8 252 So.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Lawrence Roberts, F, Mississippi State

Released from the obscurity (and turmoil) of Baylor, Roberts starred in his first year at Starkville. He only should get better now that he is comfortable. Roberts finishes well in the paint and on the baseline. He is a vacuum on the glass and runs the floor well. He returns with unfinished business: In elimination losses in the SEC and NCAA tournaments last season, he shot 8-for-23. He will play with a chip on his shoulder this year.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

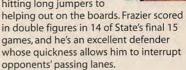
Joe Crawford, G, Kentucky

He might be the jewel of Tubby Smith's best recruiting class. Crawford is electric, a special athlete with good shooting and finishing ability. He will be given the chance to score big as a freshman, and he likely will seize that opportunity.

MOST UNDERRATED

Winsome Frazier, G, Mississippi State

He often has been overshadowed by Roberts and the departed Timmy Bowers, but Frazier can do a little of everything, from hitting long jumpers to



HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Anthony Roberson, Florida Best playmaker: C.J. Watson, Tennessee Best NBA prospect: Randolph Morris, Kentucky

Best defender: Winsome Frazier, Mississippi State

Most versatile: Ronnie Brewer, Arkansas

entucku

WHAT WE LIKE: This team has players. Despite losing three starters, two of whom were All-SEC performers, the Wildcats still have a talent pool that runs deep. Tubby Smith brought in one of the best recruiting classes in the program's storied history as the Wildcats signed three McDonald's All-Americans. Big man Randolph Morris and guards Joe Crawford and Rajon Rondo are immediate-impact newcomers, and another guard, Ramel Bradley, would be considered the team's prize catch if not for his impressive classmates. Added to a

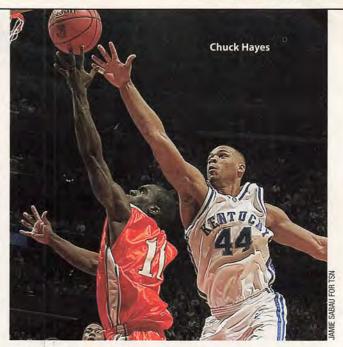
SCHEDULE

N20 Coppin St N23 Ball St. at Cincinnati N26 Georgia St. N30 Tennessee Tech at North Carolina D8 Morehead St. D11 Indiana D18 at Louisville D22 William & Mary D29 Campbel South Carolina Kansas J12 Vanderbilt J15 at Georgia J19 at Mississipp J22 LSU J25 at Tennessee 179 at Arkansas at Vanderbilt F5 Florida F8 F12 Georgia at South Carolina F19 Mississippi St. F23 Auburn F26 at Alabama M2 Tennessee M6 at Florida

roster that includes senior forward Chuck Hayes, junior swingman Kelenna Azubuike and transfer Patrick Sparks, the newcomers give Smith his most gifted group since Kentucky's 1998 NCAA championship season. Hayes inherits the leadership role from the team's three departed starters, and the Wildcats appear to be in good hands. Hayes is one of the SEC's most tenacious rebounders and quietly posted seven double-doubles last season. But his most impressive contribution often comes on the defensive end, where he has a knack for defusing the opponent's best big man. Azubuike, on the other hand, will do the most damage offensively, and he could be primed for a breakthrough after averaging 11.1 points per game. Morris, the crown jewel of the signing class, essentially chose Kentucky over the NBA. He's 6-11 and brings developed skills to the post. That means the Wildcats won't have to rely heavily on last year's 7-foot freshman projects, Lukasz Obrzut and Shagari Alleyne, who remain projects. Crawford, Rondo, Bradley and Sparks bring considerable pep to a perimeter game in need of rebuilding. Crawford, in particular, looks mature for a freshman. Sophomore forwards Sheray Thomas and Bobby Perry appear to be adequate role players who will only improve with experience. In fact, Kentucky's roster is so deep, Smith is making noise about playing a junior varsity schedule.

WHAT SCARES US: The freshmen are incredibly talented, but they're still freshmen. The Wildcats' typically brutal nonconference schedule forces newcomers to hit the ground running, so it wouldn't be surprising to see at least a little wheel-spinning while the new guys feel their way into the rotation. And despite the quality of the replacements, the loss of starters Gerald Fitch, Erik Daniels, Cliff Hawkins and sixth man Antwain Barbour should not be minimized. Fitch and Daniels were first-team All-SEC performers, point guard Hawkins had more assists than any player in the league while ranking second in steals, and Fitch was the MVP of the SEC tournament. The rookies will have to check their egos at the door and yield to Smith's uncompromising insistence on hard-nosed defense and unselfish play, and it's not a style that works for everyone. Remember Rashaad Carruth? And the newcomers will have to contribute in the 3-point game. Fitch was the moneyman, and he's gone. Azubuike is the only returner who made more than nine 3-pointers last year, and he tailed off to 30.2 percent behind the arc in conference play, a number he must bring up.

X-FACTOR: Three years ago, Sparks was offered a chance to walk on at Kentucky. The Central City (Ky.) point guard rejected the Wildcats' offer and took a scholarship to play at Western Kentucky instead. Sparks spent two years with the Hilltoppers, averaging 13.3 points and 5.9 assists in his sophomore season. Then, when Western Kentucky coach Dennis Felton left for Georgia in 2003, Sparks left the school and came to Kentucky. He paid his own way while sitting out the 2003-04 season but will return to the court on scholarship this year. His aggressive style has been compared to that of Michigan State and NBA star Scott Skiles, and Sparks is a deft passer who brings much-needed perimeter shooting to the team. In a Blue-White scrimmage last October, Sparks scored 23 points and was 5-of-9 from behind the arc.



AN SEC COACH SAYS:

I think Patrick Sparks will be terrific. He's a proven winner who makes his teammates better, and he's confident on the floor. They have good players up front, and within Tubby's system they will be very tough. Even though they were undersized last year, they still went in to Erik Daniels and Chuck Hayes a lot, and now with a big man like Randolph Morris, they will be even tougher to defend, more consistent inside-outside. Kelenna Azubuike will take and make big shots and can drive the ball hard at the goal. Chuck Hayes is just a solid, solid player.

WILDCATS DATA

Coach: Tubby Smith (191-52, 7 years; 315-114 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 24-10; won NCAA title in 1998).

Assistant coaches: David Hobbs (4 years), Reggie Hanson (4), Scott Rigot

2003-04 record: 27-5. SEC East: 13-3/1st. Lost to UAB in NCAA St. Louis Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (East Division). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1991. Site: Lexington, Ky. Website: www.ukathletics.com

Home court: Rupp Arena (23,000).

<u> </u>	<u>5T</u>	EH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	(Shagari Alleyne	7-3/258	So.	0.8	0.7	0.0	40.0	33.3	-
24	G/F	Kelenna Azubuike*	6-5/208	Jr.	11.1	5.0	1.1	47.6	76.3	39.8
3	G	Ramel Bradley	6-3/190	Fr.	Great	ballh	andler v	with exce	ellent qui	ickness.
5	G	Josh Carrier	6-5/202	Sr.	1.2	0.9	0.3	27.8	33.3	28.6
32	G	Joe Crawford	6-4/205	Fr.	Top s	hooti	ng gua	rd is an	elite sc	orer.
44	F	Chuck Hayes*	6-6/247	Sr.	10.7	8.1	3.0	53.3	68.1	25.0
11	G	Preston LeMaster	6-2/177	Jr.	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	_
33	C	Randolph Morris	6-11/250	Fr.	Avera	aged '	16 rpg	and 4.5	bpg last	season.
2	G	Ravi Moss	6-2/176	Jr.	1.7	1.2	0.5	52.0	60.0	47.4
10	(Lukasz Obrzut	7-1/257	So.	1.2	0.8	0.1	44.4	66.7	-
13	F	Bobby Perry	6-7/215	So.	1.3	1.5	0.2	22.6	70.0	17.6
4	G	Rajon Rondo	6-1/165	Fr.	Had 1	2 apg	as a se	nior at O	ak Hill A	cademy.
22	G	Patrick Sparks	6-1/180	Jr.	West	ern K	entuck	y transfe	er eligib	le to pla
1	G	Brandon Stockton	5-9/167	Jr.	1.0	0.4	0.4	36.8	85.7	30.8
23	F	Sheray Thomas	6-7/218	So.	1.7	1.1	0.3	59.3	54.5	-
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G/F	An	twain Barbour	6-5/195	5.0	2	.5	0.9	40.3	68.4	28.3
F	Eril	k Daniels*	6-8/214	14.5	6	.1	2.8	58.1	62.9	30.4
G	Ger	rald Fitch*	6-3/188	16.2	4	.0	1.4	43.1	76.0	40.1
G	Clif	f Hawkins*	6-1/187	10.3	2	9	5.2	42.3	71.0	33.7

National rank 25

WHAT WE LIKE: Coach Billy Donovan always has been able to recruit offensive talent, and that remains the trademark of this Florida team. Anthony Roberson and Matt Walsh give the Gators a potent backcourt duo that can score from long range and extend defenses. Roberson's 17.9 scoring average as a sophomore was the team's highest since Dan Cross averaged 18.0 points in 1994-95. And Roberson's 99 3-pointers, which he hit at a 42.5 percent clip, were a school record. After flirting with the NBA draft, the point guard

SCHEDULE

N19 at Jacksonville N23 Florida Atlantic N27 Providence at Miami, Fla. N30 Florida A&M Miami (Fla.) Stetson D11 Louisville D19 Georgia Southern D22 Eastern Kentucky D29 Sam Houston St at Florida St. J2 Arkansas at Auburn at Vanderbilt 119 Tennessee 126 Georgia South Carolina 129 F1 at Mississippi St. F5 Alabama at Kentucky at Tennessee F16 Mississippi F19 at LSU F23 Vanderhilt

F27 at South Carolina

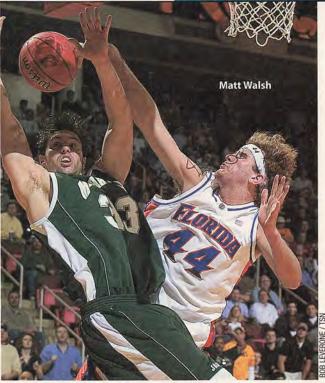
Kentucky

M2 at Georgia decided to return for his junior season. Walsh hopes to pick up where he left off at the end of his sophomore season, in which he averaged an SEC-high 21.3 points in February. Both Roberson and Walsh are aggressive with the ball and boost their point totals at the free throw line, where each shot better than 80 percent last year. The complementary third cog in the triangle is David Lee, who can play center or forward. Lee, the only scholarship senior, is a high-percentage shooter close to the basket and an excellent passer. He had 88 assists last season and frequently operates from the top of the key. Guard Lee Humphrey, who became a freshman starter after Christian Drejer left the team to play in Europe last February, connected on 43.9 percent of his 3-point tries. Forwards Chris Richard and Mohamed Abukar didn't get tons of playing time as freshmen, but both have the potential to contribute significantly. A new arrival, 6-8 freshman wing Corey Brewer, could shake up the starting lineup by midseason.

WHAT SCARES US: The Gators, at times, look more like a collection of talent than a cohesive team. Part of the explanation is inexperience—the Gators were one of the youngest teams in the nation last winter with only three players beyond their sophomore seasons. Another charge against Florida is that

it lacks toughness. The Gators got hammered on the boards in their 75-60 first-round NCAA Tournament loss to Manhattan, giving up 13 offensive rebounds to the Jaspers. In SEC play, the Gators had a rebounding deficit and were last in the league in blocked shots. When the Gators play Roberson, Humphrey and Walsh, they put pressure on Lee and the other post to come up strong on the glass, and Lee needs to improve his 6.8 rebounding average. Adrian Moss, the lateseason starter, and Richard also need to show more toughness in the paint. That's likely to happen because both will have an added year of experience battling under the basket. Richard showed flashes of muscle but battled tendinitis throughout his rookie year. Assuming he's healthy, he should be a much bigger factor as a sophomore. Moss, meanwhile, will be a junior and can be expected to expand his presence. He averaged 11.7 points a game during the Gators' SEC tournament run, nearly double his average for the season. The freshman class also brings three bodies who might help in the paint: Al Horford, Joakim Noah and Cornelius Ingram (a football signee). The Gators still will be relatively young this winter, but not as young as last year, and they'll have the benefit of more bodies. Donovan hopes that translates into being able to turn up the heat with pressure defense and causing opponents more problems trying to score.

X-FACTOR: Larry Shyatt built his coaching reputation by emphasizing defense, rebounding and discipline, all of which makes him a good hire for Donovan's Florida staff. The 53-year-old Shyatt, a longtime Rick Barnes assistant, moves into the assistant's position after a year away from the bench. He was a head coach at Wyoming for one year, followed by five at Clemson. Donovan hopes bringing in a veteran assistant with head coaching experience will pay off for the Gators as it has for Alabama with Tom Asbury and Kentucky with David Hobbs. Donovan also hopes adding a fresh face to the coaching staff will add a spark to the team and end a string of seasons in which the team did not meet its full potential.



AN SEC COACH SAYS:

Anthony Roberson and Matt Walsh are as good on the perimeter as anyone, and David Lee is strong, both from the foul line and the block. Corey Brewer will help, and he'll be better as he gets bigger and stronger. Roberson can lack aggressiveness. That's a problem. When he and Walsh are going well, they feed on that. When they aren't With those two and Christian Drejer on the perimeter, it was hard to keep them happy. And they didn't have a lot of depth up front. When Lee was out, their big guys were ineffective.

GATORS DATA

Coach: Billy Donovan (169-84, 8 years; 204-104 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 9-6)

Assistant coaches: Anthony Grant (8 years), Donnie Jones (8), Larry Shyatt (1st).

2003-04 record: 20-11. SEC East: 9-7/2nd. Lost to Manhattan in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie, East Division). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1998.

Site: Gainesville, Fla. Website: www.gatorzone.com Home court: Stephen C. O'Connell Center (12,000).

RO	ST.	ER								
		starter; bold names: pro	iected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.		Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	F	Mohamed Abukar	6-10/200	So.	2.7	2.1	0.7	34.1	57.1	26.6
2	G/F	Corey Brewer	6-8/183	Fr.	Great	score	r who a	lso excel	s on defe	ense.
11	G	Taurean Green	6-0/170	Fr.	Score	d 50 p	oints in	two gar	nes last	season.
3	G	Seth Haimovitch	6-1/176	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
42	F	Al Horford	6-8/225	Fr.	Tallie	d 21.1	ppg, 13	3.0 rpg, 4	.9 bpg la	ast season.
12	G	Lee Humphrey*	6-2/180	So.	3.8	1.2	1.1	47.2	55.6	43.9
10	G	Cornelius Ingram	6-5/215	Fr.	Also	was re	cruited	heavily f	or footb	all.
24	F	David Lee*	6-9/249	Sr.	13.3	6.8	2.8	58.8	77.2	0.0
4	F	Adrian Moss*	6-9/238	Jr.	6.8	4.6	0.6	49.7	62.7	27.3
13	F/C	Joakim Noah	6-11/200	Fr.	Son o	f Fren	ch Oper	champi	on Yann	ick Noah.
32	F	Chris Richard	6-8/245	So.	3.8	2.6	0.1	60.5	55.3	-
1	G	Anthony Roberson*	6-1/180	Jr.	17.9	3.0	3.6	46.2	85.9	42.5
44	F	Matt Walsh*	6-6/205	Jr.	15.8	4.8	2.8	44.4	82.4	34.6
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Ra	shid Al-Kaleem	6-3/192	3.0	0	.7	0.4	38.9	85.7	36.6
F/C	Во	nell Colas	6-9/225	4.9	3	.1	0.8	53.8	63.4	-
F	Ch	ristian Drejer*	6-9/225	10.2	4	.8	4.0	46.8	75.0	39.3

3. South Carolina

WHAT WE LIKE: Nobody figured the Gamecocks for 23 wins last season. Much of that success can be traced to defense, and coach Dave Odom promises more of same in 2004-05. South Carolina is blessed with athletic perimeter players, all the better to press and trap. With Carlos Powell, Josh Gonner, Tarence Kinsey, Renaldo Balkman and Tre Kelley, the Gamecocks can force the action. By extending pressure, they topped the SEC in virtually every defensive category, including steals and forced turnovers. Balkman is a hard-nosed small forward who finished his freshman year strong. Wings Powell and Gonner are the only double-figure scorers returning. If Kinsey continues to improve, the offense will be the better for it.

WHAT SCARES US: Carolina lost its two best defenders—Mike Boynton, a leader and clamp-down stopper on the perimeter, and Rolando Howell, a formidable defender and rebounder in the paint. Kelley, who averaged 16 minutes as a freshman, is the logical choice to handle Boynton's duties. But who will be the enforcer? Odom hopes 6-9 sophomore Brandon Wallace steps up. Another concern is perimeter shooting, which the Gamecocks improved modestly last season.

X-FACTORS: Last year, Gonner was the most productive junior college newcomer in the conference. Two new JC transfers could have a Gonner-like impact this year. Roderick Trice, a 6-4 wing, starred at Georgia Perimeter College. Antoine Tisby will earn immediate kudos if his rebounding prowess translates to Carolina. The 6-8 Tisby was recruited to fill Howell's role, and Odom expects quick results.

SCHEDULE

N21 Western Carolina N24 Winthrop	D4 Clemson D14 South Florida	at Mobile, Ala. D22 South Carolina St.	J5 at Kentucky J8 Georgia	J22 at Mississippi St. J26 Vanderbilt	F5 at Georgia F12 Auburn	F23 at Tennessee F27 Florida
N27 Temple	D18 at Kansas	D29 at Pittsburgh	J12 at LSU	J29 at Florida	F15 Kentucky	M2 at Vanderbilt
D1 Appalachian St.	D20 East Carolina	D31 Wofford	J15 Tennessee	F2 Arkansas	F19 at Alabama	M6 Missisissippi

4. Tennessee

WHAT WE LIKE: The Vols, trying to battle their way out of a mediocrity rut, return every key player and start with a strong nucleus of point guard C.J. Watson, wing Scooter McFadgon and post Brandon Crump. All three are proven offensive options who averaged double figures last season. Crump, a fifth-year senior, has improved every season and added a nice jump-hook move. McFadgon, who is capable of blowing open a game with a scoring binge, is one of the nation's most reliable free throw shooters. UCLA transfer Andre Patterson helps relieve pressure on Crump in the paint, both as a scorer and rebounder. Although big man Major Wingate didn't contribute much scoring as a freshman, it wouldn't be a surprise to see him blossom.

WHAT SCARES US: Tennessee was awful on defense last season and struggled with perimeter shooting. Freshmen Jordan Howell and Chris Lofton were signed to stretch defenses and Dane Bradshaw, who hustled his way into a starting role late last season as a freshman, needs to improve his 22-percent accuracy from behind the arc. The inability to shut down opponents also is an issue that could sabotage a promising season. McFadgon, in particular, needs to take his defense more seriously.

X-FACTOR: Coach Buzz Peterson is begging for leadership. Departed Ron Slay left a huge void last season and none of the veterans stepped up. Vocal leadership does not come naturally to any of the Big Three—Watson, Crump or McFadgon. They need to take charge. If they remain passive, the Vols won't realize their potential.

SCHEDULE.

JOI ILDULL						
N22-24 Maui Invitational	D14 Alabama St.	D30 Nebraska	J12 Mississippi St.	J25 Kentucky	F9 Alabama	F26 at Arkansas
N29 Wofford	D18 at New Mexico	J2 Coastal Carolina	J15 at South Carolina	J29 at Auburn	F12 Florida	M2 at Kentucky
D5 Chattanooga	D20 Belmont	J5 at Georgia	J19 at Florida	F2 at Vanderbilt	F19 at Mississippi	M5 Georgia
D11 Xavier	D23 Campbell	J8 Vanderbilt	J22 at Louisville	F5 LSU	F23 South Carolina	73.2

GAMECOCKS DATA

Coach: Dave Odom (57-42, 3 years; 335-216 overall, 18 years; NCAA Tournament 10-9).

Assistant coaches: Rick Duckett (3 years), Barry Sanderson (3), Ricky Stokes (1).

2003-04 record: 23-11. SEC East: 8-8/T3rd. Lost to Memphis in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 1997.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Columbia, S.C. Website: www.uscsports.com Home court: Colonial Center (18,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34	F	Renaldo Balkman	6-7/198	So.	6.9	4.6	1.4	55.8	51.9	25.0
54	C	John Chappell	6-10/235	Sr.	1.4	1.4	0.2	61.1	100.0	-
23	F	Dwayne Day	6-6/185	Fr.	Avera	ged d	ouble-d	ouble as	high sch	ool senior
31	G	Josh Gonner*	6-2/181	Sr.	11.8	2.3	2.1	41.0	72.5	33.8
13	C	Paulius Joneliunas	6-10/243	So.	0.6	1.1	0.2	27.3	40.0	
1	G	Tre Kelley	6-0/193	So.	5.1	1.4	2.0	39.7	68.9	26.4
21	G	Tarence Kinsey*	6-6/189	Jr.	8.3	3.2	1.3	40.2	70.0	31.8
25	G	Jon Land	6-4/198	Sr.	0.5	0.5	0.0	33.3	-	33.3
2	G	Stephen McDowell	5-11/165	Fr.	Traine	ed at t	he IMG	Basketb	all Acade	emy.
15	F	Carlos Powell*	6-7/220	Sr.	12.2	6.2	1.4	44.7	62.3	27.4
14	C	Antoine Tisby	6-8/228	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	average	d 12.4 r	pg last se	eason.
10	F	Roderick Trice	6-4/200	Jr.	Name	ed Geo	rgia JC	Player o	f the Yea	r.
33	F	Brandon Wallace	6-9/185	So.	3.7	3.3	0.8	38.5	58.3	26.3
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nai	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Mil	ke Boynton*	6-2/180	9.9	2.	9	3.4	40.7	74.2	40.7
F	Ker	brell Brown*	6-8/220	7.3	4.	5	1.3	44.0	64.6	30.0
F/C	Rol	ando Howell	6-9/220	9.0	5.	4	1.0	54.3	77.2	_

VOLUNTEERS DATA

Coach: Buzz Peterson (47-42, 3 years; 152-92 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Assistant coaches: Chris Ferguson (7 years), Ed Conroy (1), Chuck Benson (1). 2003-04 record: 15-14. SEC East: 7-9/T5th. Lost to George Mason in NIT first round.

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie, East Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Knoxville, Tenn. Website: www.utsports.com Home court: Thompson-Boling Arena (24,535).

ROSTER

	IOSTER											
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	1-05 st	tarter							
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
3	G/F	Stanley Asumnu	6-5/215	Jr.	5.2	2.4	1.4	45.6	42.2	14.3		
23	G	Dane Bradshaw*	6-3/216	So.	3.4	2.1	1.7	41.7	58.5	22.2		
4	F/C	Brandon Crump*	6-10/255	Sr.	14.8	6.8	1.2	56.6	67.7	32.0		
42	F	Elliott DeVoe	6-5/185	Fr.	Walk-	on is	son of fo	rmer Vol	s coach l	Don DeVoe.		
12	G	Pee-Wee Gash	5-7/150	Jr.	0.3	0.0	0.3	20.0	-	0.0		
33	F	Jemere Hendrix	6-8/226	Jr.	6.8	6.2	0.4	52.5	72.1	25.0		
15	G	Jordan Howell	6-3/175	Fr.	Medi	cal rec	dshirt in	2003-04	1.			
5	G	Chris Lofton	6-2/180	Fr.	Kentucky's Mr. Basketball in 2004.							
2	G	Scooter McFadgon*	6-5/207	Sr.	17.6	4.4	2.0	39.4	91.2	38.0		
22	F	Andre Patterson	6-7/218	Jr.	UCLA	trans	fer is go	od on th	e board	s.		
10	G	JaJuan Smith	6-1/185	Fr.	Bring	s need	ded fire	ower to	backcou	urt.		
31	F	Fred Smithwick	6-7/198	Sr.	0.8	0.2	0.2	33.3	100.0	100.0		
32	G	C.J. Watson*	6-2/175	Jr.	11.5	4.2	5.0	41.8	79.6	41.1		
1	C	Major Wingate*	6-10/258	So.	3.6	2.5	0.6	40.6	65.0	_		
KE	Y LC	SSES										
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
(Bo	omer Herndon	6-10/235	1.6	1.	.8	0.2	39.4	63.0	-		
G	Joh	n Winchester	6-3/170	5.4	2.	.0	1.6	35.9	81.1	31.3		

5. Vanderbilt

WHAT WE LIKE: The Commodores are coming off a Sweet 16 appearance, and coach Kevin Stallings has five key players returning. Mario Moore is creative in the backcourt, a versatile scorer who is quick enough to go by defenders and confident enough to shoot over them. If he plays under control, he's a headache to defend. Corey Smith is a tough, physical small forward, especially on defense, an area in which Vanderbilt made big strides last year. Julian Terrell is athletic in the paint, but after two years of flashing potential, he needs a big season. A couple of newcomers from a decent recruiting class, particularly forwards Davis Nwankwo and Shan Foster, should find a niche.

WHAT SCARES US: Nobody appears capable of replacing Matt Freije's offense. When opponents were able to frustrate him last year, the Commodores couldn't overcome it. Accounting for his 18 points a game will be their biggest challenge this season. Moore will get more shots, but Smith and Jason Holwerda are primarily defenders. Terrell, Dawid Przybyszewski and sophomore guard Dan Cage will have to contribute more scoring. Stallings also has to replace the defensive toughness of departed seniors Scott Hundley and Russell Lakey.

X-FACTOR: Przybyszewski is a matchup nightmare. He's 7-2 and Vanderbilt's best 3-point shooter—one of the best in the SEC. As a junior, he had his best year, hitting 51-of-112 3-point attempts. To maximize his potential, he must improve his stamina. He also must get more physical and boost his 3.7 rebound average because the Commodores too often were beaten on the boards.

SCHEDI II E

JOI ILLUCEL						
N19 Toledo	at Portland, Ore.	D22 Appalachian St.	J8 at Tennessee	J26 at South Carolina	F7 Texas Pan-American	F23 at Florida
N21-27 Las Vegas Classic	D9 at Cincinnati	D29 Dayton	J12 at Kentucky	J29 Mississippi	F12 at Mississippi St.	F26 Georgia
D1 Austin Peay	D18 TCU	J2 Louisiana-Lafayette	J15 Florida	F2 Tennessee	F16 at Auburn	M2 South Carolina
D4 Oregon	D20 Central Michigan	J5 Alabama	J22 at Georgia	F5 Kentucky	F19 Arkansas	M5 at LSU

Georgia

WHAT WE LIKE: Dennis Felton might have limited personnel to work with, but the guy can coach. Exhibit A: a regular-season sweep of Kentucky in his first season, including a startling win in Rupp Arena. Hiring Felton to clean up Georgia's program was a solid move. To say he runs a tight ship is an understatement. The good news for Year 2 is that Felton has virtually all of his own recruits. That's also the bad news. There are no upperclassmen. The lone proven SEC-worthy commodity is sophomore guard Levi Stukes, who averaged 9.5 points and 30.1 minutes last year. Stukes has a dangerous long-range stroke.

WHAT SCARES US: After Stukes, sophomore forward Steve Newman is the No. 2 returning scorer at a whopping 2.7 points per game. Departed seniors Rashad Wright, Jonas Hayes, Damien Wilkins and Chris Daniels accounted for 75 percent of the scoring and 65 percent of the rebounding. And Felton won't have a senior-or even a junior-to plug in. Former coach Jim Harrick's final two recruiting classes were wiped out by academic failure, rules violations or signees who bolted when NCAA allegations started flying. The void will be obvious in the paint. Newman is a banger, not an offensive option. Redshirt freshman Corey Gibbs, only 6-7, will have to contribute if not start.

X-FACT to the wo every chance to start. Gaines will be a hero if he can take over at point guard from the get-go. That frees Stukes, a natural scorer, from being burdened with playmaking duties.

SCHEDULE

The five-man signing class, plus Gibbs, will be thrown	5 G Buzz Wehunt	6-4/185	So.	2.6	1.4	0.7	33.3	75.0	23.4	
volves. Guards Channing Toney and Sundiata Gaines will have	KEY LOSSES									

N23 Western Kentucky D8 Gardner Webb N26 Nevada D11 Oregon St. D1 Alabama A&M . at Atlanta at Georgia Tech D19 Wofford

D22 Benthune-Cookman D28 Savannah St. D31 Stetson 15 Tennessee

at South Carolina J12 at Mississippi J15 Kentucky 122 Vanderbilt

J26 at Florida J29 at Alabama F2 LSU South Carolina

at Arkansas F12 at Kentucky F16 at Clemson F19 Auburn

F23 Mississippi St. F26 at Vanderbilt M2 Florida M5 at Tennessee

COMMODORES DATA

Coach: Kevin Stallings (85-69, 5 years; 208-132 overall, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 3-3).

Assistant coaches: Jeff Jackson (5 years), Brad Frederick (5), Dan Muller (2), Tom Richardson (1st).

2003-04 record: 23-10. SEC East: 8-8/T3rd. Lost to Connecticut in NCAA Phoenix Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 1993.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Nashville. Website: www.vucommodores.com Home court: Memorial Gymnasium (14,168).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
5	F	LaBraun Andrews	6-7/205	Jr.	Sat or	ut last	year af	ter trans	fer from	Colgate.
4	G/F	Derrick Byars	6-7/215	Jr.	Virgin	ia tra	nsfer wi	ll sit out	2004-05	5.
20	G	Dan Cage	6-5/206	So.	2.4	0.6	0.4	38.6	75.0	42.6
22	F	DeMarre Carroll	6-7/195	Fr.	A fres	hman	who ca	n score a	and pass	
32	F	Shan Foster	6-6/175	Fr.	A top	candi	date for	SEC Fres	shman o	f Year.
2	G	Alex Gordon	5-10/160	Fr.	Was a	mong	Rivals.	com's 15	0 top pro	ospects.
3	G	Jason Holwerda*	6-6/214	Sr.	4.2	2.2	2.7	64.4	51.4	22.2
11	F	Alan Metcalfe	6-9/240	Fr.	Has g	reat s	hooting	touch ar	nd 3-poi	nt range
1	G	Mario Moore*	5-11/176	Jr.	11.2	2.7	2.9	39.3	77.4	36.3
43	F	Davis Nwankwo	6-9/235	Fr.	An at	hletic	big mar	and go	od defer	nder.
13	C	D. Przybyszewski*	7-2/253	Sr.	8.3	3.7	0.7	46.7	73.0	45.5
54	C	Ted Skuchas	6-11/248	So.	2.2	1.4	0.2	47.4	50.0	_
44	G/F	Corey Smith*	6-6/234	Sr.	6.8	3.4	1.6	45.1	69.0	38.0
33	F	Julian Terrell	6-9/244	Jr.	6.4	4.2	0.9	49.7	59.5	0.0
KE	Y LC	oss								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Ma	tt Freije*	6-9/230	18.4	5	4	0.9	41.5	78.8	35.6

Matt Freije 41.5 78.8 6-9/230 18.4

BULLDOGS DATA

Coach: Dennis Felton (16-14, 1 year; 116-68 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3)

Assistant coaches: Pete Herrmann (1 year), Mike Jones (1), Desmond Oliver (1st)

2003-04 record: 16-14. SEC East: 7-9/T5th. Lost to Iowa State in NIT first round. Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie, East Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Athens, Ga. Website: www.georgiadogs.com Home court: Stegeman Coliseum (10,523).

ROSTER

Į.	_,									
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
44	C	Dave Bliss	6-10/240	Fr.	Strong	rebo	under a	idds a ph	ysical pr	esence.
3	G	Kevin Brophy	6-1/180	Fr.	Walk-	on po	int gua	rd is a na	tive of A	ustralia.
32	G	Alex Evans	6-3/205	Fr.	Put up	big p	oints in	H.S. as	a forwar	d.
23	G	Sundiata Gaines	6-1/180	Fr.	Tough	play	maker	from Qu	eens, N	.Y.
34	F	Corey Gibbs	6-7/225	Fr.	Medic	al red	shirt in	2003-04	(knee).	
40	F	Sam Greavu	6-9/240	Fr.	Set a :	schoo	record	with 50	points in	a game.
00	F	Younes Idrissi	6-9/230	Fr.	Moroo	co na	tive put	s up poi	nts down	low.
10	G	Jay McAuley	6-1/175	Jr.	0.7	0.4	0.2	33.3	54.5	40.0
15	F	Steve Newman	6-8/230	So.	2.7	2.1	0.8	32.2	74.1	12.0
42	F	Marcus Sikes	6-6/215	So.	2.3	2.1	1.1	30.3	60.6	25.9
14	G	Levi Stukes*	6-1/180	So.	9.5	2.6	1.7	39.1	68.7	37.7
25	G	Channing Toney	6-4/195	Fr.	Scori	ng thi	eat off	dribble	or from	deep.
54	C	Joey Waldrop	7-0/300	So.	0.8	0.7	0.0	37.5	71.4	_
5	G	Buzz Wehunt	6-4/185	So.	2.6	1.4	0.7	33.3	75.0	23.4
KE'	Y LC	OSSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Ch	ris Daniels*	6-7/220	10.2	8.	1	1.9	51.0	72.6	37.5
F/C	Joi	nas Hayes*	6-8/240	11.9	5.	3	1.0	51.2	65.7	20.0
F	Da	mien Wilkins*	6-7/230	12.6	5.	4	2.9	40.6	78.7	32.1
G	Ra	shad Wright*	6-3/190	14.4	2.	9	3.0	42.4	68.3	39.6

ississioo

WHAT WE LIKE: Power forward Lawrence Roberts didn't figure to come back for his senior season after being named the conference's player of the year and a consensus first-team All-American. But when NBA teams couldn't assure Roberts he would be a first-round pick, he wisely opted to return and complete his eligibility. Maybe the Bulldogs were due to get a player like Roberts back after losing signees Jonathan Bender and Travis Outlaw to the NBA in previous years. Roberts' unexpected return means the defending SEC-champi-

SCHEDULE

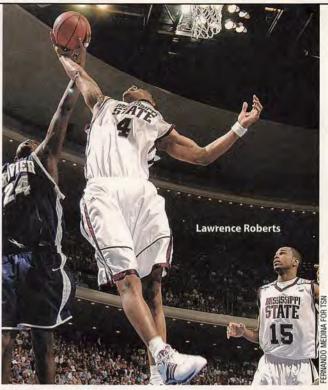
N11-19 Coaches vs. Cancer N23 Missouri-Kansas City D2 South Alabama Arizona . at Anaheim Arkansas-Little Rock D13 at New Orleans D18 at Xavier D21 Illinois-Chicago . at Jackson, Miss. D30 Virginia Tech 15 Auburn 18 at Mississipp J12 at Tennessee J15 Arkansas J18 at Alabama J22 South Carolina J29 at LSU F1 Florida at Auburn F12 Vanderbilt F16 ISII F19 at Kentucky F23 at Georgia F26 Mississippi M1 at Arkansas M5 Alahama

on Bulldogs have a shot to win back-to-back outright conference titles for the first time in school history and qualify for the NCAA Tournament a fourth consecutive time under coach Rick Stansbury-something else that has never happened before. After the way Roberts dominated the conference last season, it's reasonable to ask if he can be better as a senior. The answer is yes, because pro scouts want to see him become more versatile and play better facing the basket. That hunger to improve his game for the NBA should keep him from getting complacent and help the Bulldogs remain a national power. There are other reasons Mississippi State should excel, starting with senior forwards Winsome Frazier and Shane Power. Frazier is a strong defender who led the conference last season in steals, averaging 2.4 per game. He also is a streaky shooter who can get on a roll from the perimeter and explode to the basket with speed and quickness. Power, a transfer from Iowa State, became comfortable in a starting role the latter half of last season and now ranks as the team's best 3-point shooter (48.1 percent last season). He also is a solid all-around player who rarely makes mistakes. Look for sophomore Gary Ervin to take over as the starting point guard. He has tremendous speed and quickness and a good enough jump shot to keep defenses honest. Marcus Campbell, a 7-foot senior center, has an NBA body and the potential

to go with it. The Bulldogs also have three freshmen who are 6-8 or taller and should have good depth on the front line. The freshman who figures to get the most playing time is Charles Rhodes, who checks in at 6-9.

WHAT SCARES US: Ervin should develop into a top-notch point guard, but it won't be easy for him-or anyone else-to replace Timmy Bowers. As a senior last season, Bowers was an All-SEC performer who excelled on offense and defense and led by example. After averaging 18.8 minutes off the bench, Ervin has to show he's ready to play 30-plus high-level minutes to help offset the loss of Bowers. Behind Ervin is Jamall Edmondson, a junior college transfer who is untested in major college play. The Bulldogs also need Campbell to step up after a disappointing junior season in which he lost his starting job and saw his minutes steadily decrease. Campbell again is being handed the opportunity to come through, and he can't afford to waste what might be his last chance. He has to become more aggressive and consistent to help take pressure off Roberts inside. Wesley Morgan, a 7-2 junior, could earn a starting job, but he has to become more consistent after spot duty last season. While the Bulldogs are making a habit of qualifying for the NCAA Tournament, they're struggling to advance. In the previous three years, they haven't lasted beyond the second round, and all three losses were to lowerseeded opponents.

X-FACTOR: Ontario Harper, a 6-5 redshirt junior forward, could become a key player for the Bulldogs if he has sufficiently recovered from a knee injury that forced him to sit out last season. Harper started all 31 games in 2002-03, but he missed last year after tearing an anterior cruciate knee ligament during preseason workouts. If Harper can get back to full speed, he should help the Bulldogs with his experience, toughness and leadership while maybe taking up the slack for the loss of Branden Vincent.



AN SEC COACH SAYS:

Getting Lawrence Roberts back was a huge boost. He's a great energy guy. Winsome Frazier is dangerous because he's so good in the open floor, gets steals and hits jump shots. I don't know what Gary Ervin can do as a team leader. He's very good with the ball, quick in the open court. Shane Power is settled in, has a year playing with those guys. They have four very good returning players. Marcus Campbell, you just never know when the light goes on. If it does, he will make them dangerous. He can help them because of his size and athletic ability.

BULLDOGS DATA

Coach: Rick Stansbury (126-64, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 2-3). Assistant coaches: Robert Kirby (6 years), Phil Cunningham (4), 2003-04 record: 26-4. SEC West: 14-2/1st. Lost to Xavier in NCAA Atlanta Region second round. Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001.

Site: Starkville, Miss. Website: www.mstateathletics.com

Home court: Humphrey Coliseum (10,500).

	5T	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.		Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
3	G	Bill Begley	6-1/180	So.	0.4	0.6	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
20	G/F	Michael Boler	6-5/180	So.	0.3	1.0	0.4	12.5	50.0	0.0
50	C	Marcus Campbell	7-0/260	Sr.	6.2	3.9	0.1	55.9	61.8	-
12	G	Seth Cannon	6-0/180	Sr.	Form	er JC v	walk-on	didn't p	lay last y	ear.
5	G	Jamall Edmondson	5-9/180	Jr.	JC red	ruit w	ill back	up Ervin	at the p	oint.
11	G	Gary Ervin	5-11/170	So.	5.4	1.1	2.5	43.0	65.7	32.1
23	G/F	Winsome Frazier*	6-4/175	Sr.	13.1	4.1	1.4	41.0	79.1	33.7
31	F	Ontario Harper	6-5/205	Jr.	Starte	ed in '	02-03; i	njured k	nee last	fall.
2	F	Jerrell Houston	6-8/220	Fr.	Defer	se-or	iented;	should p	lay right	away.
25	C	Wesley Morgan	7-2/245	Jr.	2.1	1.6	0.1	100.0	33.3	-
21	G/F	Shane Power*	6-5/215	Sr.	9.7	4.2	1.5	49.5	77.5	48.1
1	F	Charles Rhodes	6-9/230	Fr.			owerfu	il; had 2.	7 bpg as	a senior
4		Lawrence Roberts		Sr.	16.9	10.1	1.2	51.9	63.4	30.0
42		Walter Sharpe	6-10/245	Fr.	Avera	ged 19	9 ppg, 1	0 rpg, 5 l	opg as a	senior.
22	G/F	Dietric Slater	6-3/190	So.	1.0	0.5		34.6	40.0	0.0
41	F	Piotr Stelmach	6-9/235	So.	0.9	1.1	0.1	41.2	75.0	0.0
KEY	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tin	nmy Bowers*	6-2/190	15.0	4	.0	4.8	40.4	74.2	35.1
F/C	Bra	nden Vincent*	6-8/240	7.4	7	.6	1.7	51.8	56.1	0.0

National rank 16

WHAT WE LIKE: Alabama reached the NCAA's Elite Eight for the first time before falling to eventual national champion Connecticut in last season's Phoenix Region final. It was an astonishing run for a team that finished 8-8 in conference play and entered the SEC tournament with only 16 wins. With four starters returning, the 2004-05 Crimson Tide has the talent and experience for another big season and should be hungry to prove last year's finish was not a fluke.

SCHEDULE

N19 Western Carolina N21 North Texas N24-27 Gr. Alaska Shootout D1 East Tennessee St. **D4** at Charlotte **D7** at Alabama St. D11 Temple Tennessee St D22 Texas A&M-CC D29 at Wisconsin New Orleans at Vanderbilt J8 LSU J11 at Arkansas J18 Mississippi St. J22 at Mississippi at Auburn J29 Georgia at Florida F5 F9 at Tennessee F12 Mississippi Arkansas F19 South Carolina F22 at ISII F26 Kentucky

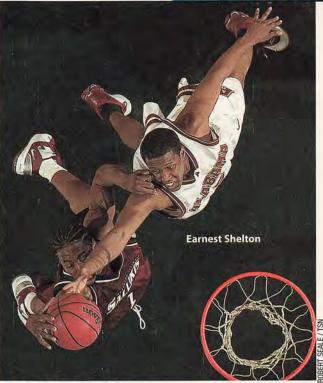
M2 Auburn at Mississippi St.

Returnees include the team's top three scorers—senior guard Earnest Shelton and junior forwards Kennedy Winston and Chuck Davis-and 6-10 sophomore Jermareo Davidson. Shelton and Winston were major reasons why Alabama led the SEC in 3-point shooting at 37.8 percent. They also are strong drivers who can finish around the basket and draw fouls. The Crimson Tide shot 70.9 percent from the free throw line last season, tops among SEC West teams. Davis became a key contributor after playing sparingly as a freshman. Now he ranks among the conference's best big men. He is strong inside and keeps defenders honest with a nice jump shot. Davidson is a good rebounder and shot blocker who should improve steadily after starting as a true freshman. Evan Brock, a 6-8 junior forward, is a steady player off the bench who can provide quality minutes when the starters get in foul trouble or need a rest. Alabama coach Mark Gottfried, a former Crimson Tide player, has brought the program back to national prominence with three consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances—the first time that has happened since the Wimp Sanderson era ended in 1992. Now Alabama fans would be disappointed if the team failed to earn an NCAA bid. The Tide matches up well with defending conference champion Mississippi State, and this year's games should play a major factor in the SEC West. Alabama won last sea-

son at Starkville and took the Bulldogs into overtime before losing at Tuscaloosa. The Tide also played well during other conference road games last season, a sign that this team has mental toughness.

WHAT SCARES US: Alabama lost only one starter, but he was the team's little big man-6-foot point guard Antoine Pettway. He came to Alabama as a walk-on and steadily developed into a fearless leader and ball distributor who showed a knack for making clutch shots. Four times Pettway delivered game-winners in the final seconds. Pettway's backup, Demetrius Smith, also is gone, meaning the Tide will have to rely on freshmen to handle point duties. Look for Ronald Steele to win the starting job, and he's quick and talented. But that's a long way from being ready to run an offense in the SEC. Glenn Miles, another freshman, also will compete for playing time at the point. They don't have to become overnight stars, but one or both must contribute immediately so the returning starters can concentrate on carrying the scoring. Steele and Miles are two of the seven true freshmen on the team. Besides the four returning starters and Brock, no other player has seen significant playing time. Davis fouled out six times last season and needs to do a better job of conserving fouls and staying in games. Winston had arthroscopic knee surgery after last season and was limited during summer workouts. So the freshmen might have to contribute quickly. Last season's Crimson Tide was the conference's surprise team. It won't be able to sneak up on opponents this year and, conversely, must be ready to take everyone's best shot.

X-FACTOR: The Crimson Tide knows how to win tight games. Alabama was 8-4 in overtime and games decided by four or fewer points last season, but Pettway was a big part of the team's ability to answer so many close calls. Who will handle go-to duties in 2004-05? Look for late-game heroics to fall on the shoulders of three players-Winston, Shelton and Davis, all of whom can score inside and out and are good free throw shooters.



AN SEC COACH SAYS:

Chuck Davis really came on strong. He was more effective around the basket, got deeper position, scored more easily and didn't have to shoot from distance. He was more confident, and they threw it to him more. That opened things up on the perimeter, and they can shoot. Kennedy Winston is very smooth. Earnest Shelton is a great shooter. They lack a leader at the point. Jermario Davidson will be better with a year of experience. We played them man and went after them hard. We were able to stop penetration. You have to push Kennedy out.

CRIMSON TIDE DATA

Coach: Mark Gottfried (119-74, 6 years; 187-99 overall, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 4-5)

Assistant coaches: Philip Pearson (6 years), Orlando Early (3), Tom Asbury (1). 2003-04 record: 20-13. SEC West: 8-8/T2nd. Lost to Connecticut in NCAA Phoenix Region final.

Last regular-season title: 2002.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001. Site: Tuscaloosa, Ala. Website: www.rolltide.com Home court: Coleman Coliseum (15,316)

30:	<u>5T</u>	ER										
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pro	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter							
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
45	F	Akini Adkins	6-9/200	Fr.	Redsl	nirt pl	ayed in	one gam	e last se	ason.		
21	F	Evan Brock	6-8/200	Jr.	3.1	2.7	0.7	36.5	61.0	0.0		
20	G	LaKory Daniels	6-1/180	Fr.	Sat o	ut last	season	as a me	dical red	shirt.		
33	F/C	Jermareo Davidson*	6-10/210	So.	5.0	4.3	0.5	47.2	57.7	_		
1	F	Chuck Davis*	6-7/230	Jr.	11.5	5.9	1.4	51.4	69.4	33.3		
23	F	Jean Felix	6-7/213	Jr.	Is skil	led bu	t may ha	eve troub	le gettin	g minutes		
44	G/F	Justin Jonus	6-5/205	Fr.	A walk-on who redshirted last season.							
25	G	Glenn Miles	6-4/185	Fr.	Should battle Steele for starting point duty.							
24	G	Jason Reese	6-2/210	Sr.	0.6	1.0	0.8	25.0	50.0	0.0		
5	G	Earnest Shelton*	6-3/200	Sr.	15.8	3.8	2.1	42.4	82.4	35.0		
22	G	Ronald Steele	6-2/185	Fr.	Two-	time	Alabam	a Mr. Ba	sketbal	1.		
32	C	Shawn Taylor	6-11/200	Fr.	Reds	hirt w	ill add b	ulk to th	e frontco	ourt.		
4	G	Albert Weber	6-3/180	Fr.	A sha	rp-sh	ooting t	rue fresh	man.			
13	G/F	Lucky Williams	6-5/210	Sr.	0.3	0.7	0.0	33.3	-	-		
3	F	Kennedy Winston*	6-6/205	Jr.	17.1	5.5	1.9	45.1	72.3	39.7		
KE	Y LC	SSES										
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
G	An	toine Pettway*	6-0/170	9.1	3	.7	3.5	41.8	76.6	36.7		
F	Em	mett Thomas	6-4/205	8.7	3	.2	0.5	46.2	69.0	44.0		

WHAT WE LIKE: June was a good month for the Tigers. Sophomore forward Brandon Bass withdrew his name from the NBA draft and freshman forward Glen Davis, a high school All-American, became academically eligible. Both are 6-8 and should give LSU a potent 1-2 scoring and rebounding punch inside. The Tigers had that with Bass and Jaime Lloreda last season, but Lloreda was slowed by injuries and finally quit, forcing fast-starting LSU to settle for an NIT bid. Bass, the conference's top freshman, struggled at times when he became the focal point of opposing defenses. But Davis' presence could help him mature into a go-to guy. Junior guard Darrel Mitchell was the SEC's best 3-point shooter in conference games and should get a lot of open looks. The Tigers also have a nice combination at point guard with senior Xavier Whipple and sophomore Tack Minor. Sophomore forward Regis Koundjia appears ready to make a major impact.

WHAT SCARES US: The team didn't have strong leadership last season, contributing to its demise when Lloreda quit. Whipple or senior guard Antonio Hudson needs to become more vocal and show the way for younger players. And Hudson has to play more consistently as a perimeter threat and tough defender. Davis, loaded with talent, has to prove he has the work ethic and drive to excel in the SEC.

X-FACTOR: After the rough end to last season, coach John Brady shook up his coaching staff and hired John Treloar, who coached at Indiana for seven years and is a veteran of the CBA. Treloar is known as a strong X's and O's guy and should help with game-day tactics.

TIGERS DATA

Coach: John Brady (120-92, 7 years; 209-169 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 2-2)

Assistant coaches: Butch Pierre (7 years), Nikita Johnson (1st), John Treloar (1st).

2003-04 record: 18-11. SEC West: 8-8/T2nd. Lost to Oklahoma in NIT first

Last regular-season title: 2000 (West Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Baton Rouge, La. Website: www.lsusports.com Home court: Maravich Assembly Center (14,164).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
30	F	Brandon Bass*	6-8/252	So.	12.8	7.4	0.6	50.4	78.3	26.3
34	F	Glen Davis	6-8/310	Fr.	Big p	ower	forwar	d could	start im	mediately.
42	G/F	Antonio Hudson*	6-6/214	Sr.	10.2	3.9	1.9	39.4	62.2	34.8
1	F	Regis Koundjia	6-8/200	So.	3.9	3.6	1.0	36.2	51.4	20.5
35	F	Darnell Lazare	6-8/229	So.	2.9	2.4	0.3	56.3	52.0	-
11	G	Josh Maravich	6-3/180	Jr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	_	_
3	G	Tack Minor	5-11/200	So.	7.2	1.9	1.7	36.2	68.0	33.7
2	G	Darrel Mitchell*	5-11/176	Jr.	11.9	2.8	2.2	41.2	71.0	41.9
45	F	Ross Neltner	6-9/235	So.	1.0	1.1	0.4	40.0	40.0	33.3
14	G	Garrett Temple	6-5/180	Fr.	Big gu	uard fi	rom Uni	versity Hi	gh in Ba	ton Rouge.
12	F	Tyus Thomas	6-7/200	Fr.	Third	local:	star in c	lass to st	ay hom	e.
22	G	Xavier Whipple*	6-2/172	Sr.	4.1	2.4	3.0	33.3	76.6	24.0
32	F	Paul Wolfert	6-10/205	Jr.	1.7	0.3	0.0	100.0	-	100.0
KE	LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nar	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Jair	ne Lloreda*	6-9/246	16.9	11.	6	1.4	58.1	54.1	0.0

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	Jaime Lloreda*	6-9/246	16.9	11.6	1.4	58.1	54.1	0.0	

SCHEDULE

N19-21 LSU Tournament	D13 McNeese St.	D30 Florida St.	J12 South Carolina	J26 Mississippi	F9 Auburn	F22 Alabama
N24 New Orleans	D18 Southern Miss	at New Orleans	J15 Ohio St.	J29 Mississippi St.	F12 at Arkansas	F26 at Auburn
N27 West Virginia	at Biloxi	J3 at Utah	J19 Arkansas	F2 at Georgia	F16 at Mississippi St.	M2 at Mississippi
D11 Northwestern St.	D21 at Houston	J8 at Alabama	J22 at Kentucky	F5 at Tennessee	F19 Florida	M5 Vanderbilt

4. Arkansas

WHAT WE LIKE: Arkansas returns its top four scorers and has a big, strong recruiting class. After three straight losing seasons, the Razorbacks could jump over .500, but an NCAA return might be a year away. Swingman Ronnie Brewer is one of the SEC's best all-around players and refreshingly unselfish. Jonathon Modica is a versatile scorer who will get points driving, drawing fouls and hitting jumpers. Guard Olu Famutimi made the league's all-freshman team last season but was inconsistent coming off major knee surgery. Now he's ready to show off his skill. And junior college transfer Dontell Jefferson appears set to take over the point. After being overmatched physically last season, the Razorbacks now have five players 6-8 or bigger.

WHAT SCARES US: Losing power forward recruit Al Jefferson to the NBA hurts. Even without him, the team will rely heavily on freshmen inside, with signees Steven Hill (6-11), Charles Thomas (6-7) and Darian Townes (6-10) expected to play key roles. Arkansas shot a conference-low 31.4 percent on 3-point attempts last season and still lacks proven outside shooters. Maurice Hargrow, who transferred from Minnesota in January, was expected to add toughness and depth to the backcourt in the second semester. But he changed his mind and returned to Minnesota.

X-FACTOR: The Razorbacks were 0-8 in SEC road games last season, even though they led or were tied in the second half of five of those losses. A more experienced group should be able to make better plays down the stretch and improve away from home.

RAZORBACKS DATA

Coach: Stan Heath (21-35, 2 years; 51-41 overall, 3 years; NCAA Tournament 3-1).

Assistant coaches: Darren Sorenson (2 years), Oronde Taliaferro (2), Ronny Thompson (1).

2003-04 record: 12-16. SEC West: 4-12/6th.

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Fayetteville, Ark. Website: www.hogwired.com

Home court: Bud Walton Arena (19,200).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%		
10	G/F	Ronnie Brewer*	6-7/200	So.	12.2	5.5	3.4	48.1	57.4	26.6		
22	G	Preston Cranford	6-7/190	So.	0.5	0.1	0.1	28.6	50.0	33.3		
23	G/F	Olu Famutimi*	6-5/207	So.	7.0	3.5	0.8	36.3	64.4	23.5		
11	G	Eric Ferguson*	6-1/204	Jr.	8.1	2.6	2.8	37.1	85.7	34.1		
	C	Steven Hill	6-11/255									
33	F	Vincent Hunter	6-10/195	So.	3.8	3.2	0.3	49.1	69.1	_		
	G	Dontell Jefferson	6-6/190	Jr.	Avera	ged 9	.2 assi	sts in ju	co last	season		
5	F	Matt Jones	6-6/225	Jr.	5.0	4.5	1.6	47.6	33.3	26.7		
1	G/F	Michael Jones	6-9/215	Sr.	4.8	1.7	0.3	37.5	70.4	33.8		
24	G/F	Jonathon Modica*	6-4/200	Jr.	16.5	4.5	1.2	46.2	78.2	32.5		
	G/F	Marcus Monk	6-6/205	Fr.	Expec	ted to	join tea	m after	football	season.		
20	F	Rashard Sullivan	6-8/235	Jr.	1.2	3.0	0.7	39.4	23.5	_		
	F	Charles Thomas	6-7/230	Fr.	A soli	d all-a	round p	layer.				
	C	Darian Townes	6-10/235	Fr.	Set Vi	rginia l	high sch	nool mar	k with 1	83 bloc		

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Kendrick Davis	6-4/181	5.4	1.2	0.7	34.1	89.5	26.2
F	Billy Pharis*	6-8/230	5.5	2.9	1.3	39.6	55.6	37.9

N19-22 Paradise Jam	at Little Rock	D20 Lipscomb	J5 Mississippi	J19 at LSU	F5 at Mississippi	F19 at Vanderbilt
N27 Gardner-Webb	D7 at Missouri	D23 Hartford	J8 at Florida	J22 Auburn	F9 Georgia	F26 Tennessee
N30 Tulsa	D16 Tennessee St.	D29 Jacksonville St.	J11 Alabama	J29 Kentucky	F12 LSU	M1 Mississippi St.
D4 Illinois	D18 Prairie View A&M	D31 Louisiana-Monroe	J15 at Mississippi St.	F2 at South Carolina	F16 at Alabama	M5 at Auburn

5. Auburn

WHAT WE LIKE: Jeff Lebo was a good hire when Cliff Ellis was fired. The guy knows all about winning, both as a player and coach. He takes over an Auburn team that will depend on experienced and talented perimeter players to carry the offense with 3-point shooting. Guards Ian Young and Ronny LeMelle and forward Quinnel Brown should be improved after adjusting as junior college transfers last season. Freshman guard Toney Douglas also adds scoring punch. The Tigers will spread the floor, trying to draw opponents away from the basket, and apply full-court pressure in hopes of creating easy baskets off turnovers. But even if the Tigers execute well, it will be tough for them to improve on last season's 14-14 finish.

WHAT SCARES US: The decisions of Marco Killingsworth, Lewis Monroe, Brandon Robinson and Dwayne Curtis to transfer wiped out the team's size and depth. The Tigers have just nine scholarship players and only one taller than 6-6—6-11 freshman Ryan Daniel. And Daniel, who had been expected to redshirt, weighs just 215 pounds and is more comfortable playing on the perimeter. If the Tigers aren't hitting 3-pointers, they'll struggle to score. Using the press to avoid being pounded inside also will be tough because of the team's lack of bodies.

X-FACTOR: There will be no pressure on the Tigers. It's a transition year and Auburn is expected to finish at or near the bottom of the SEC West. With such low expectations, the players can go out and have fun. Who doesn't want to fire up a bunch of 3s? If they go in great; if not, the Tigers can try and get 'em next time.

TIGERS DATA

Coach: Jeff Lebo (1st year: 115-63 overall, 6 years).

Assistant coaches: John Cooper (1st year), Brandon Johnson (1st), Dave

2003-04 record: 14-14. SEC West: 5-11/T4th.

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Auburn, Ala. Website: www.auburntigers.com Home court: Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum (10,500).

ROSTER

N-	Dan	Name	He Alle	e1	nnc	DDC	ADC	ECO/	FT%	3%
No.	POS.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%		
21	F	Quinnel Brown	6-6/210	Sr.	7.1	3.0	1.6	41.9	68.0	35.5
32	C	Ryan Daniel	6-11/215	Fr.	Skille	d playe	er adds	much-ne	eeded si	ze.
23	G	Toney Douglas	6-1/190	Fr.	A thr	eat to	score t	from an	ywhere.	
10	G	Troy Gaines	6-1/185	Sr.	3.8	0.8	0.5	32.5	41.7	33.3
2	G/F	Daniel Hayles	6-5/215	Fr.	A soli	d defe	nder an	d ballha	ndler.	
15	G	Brett Howell	6-1/175	So.	Willia	m & N	Mary tra	nsfer rec	Ishirted	last year
33	G	Ronny LeMelle	6-5/200	Sr.	6.0	2.1	1.7	40.2	72.2	42.1
1	G	Frank Tolbert	6-3/205	Fr.	Stron	g with	long ar	ms and	shooting	range
24	G	Nathan Watson*	6-3/200	Sr.	7.5	2.7	2.3	33.3	75.0	29.2
3	G	Ian Young*	6-3/200	Sr.	10.0	2.3	2.4	39.5	84.1	39.3

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
C	Dwayne Curtis	6-9/235	2.9	2.3	0.3	57.9	45.8		
C	Kyle Davis	6-10/235	6.5	6.8	1.3	44.7	60.0	50.0	
F	Marco Killingsworth*	6-7/235	13.7	6.9	1.0	58.7	64.2	40.0	
G	Lewis Monroe*	6-5/190	6.1	1.5	3.6	36.5	73.7	33.3	
F	Brandon Robinson*	6-8/215	12.0	6.7	1.8	50.0	66.2	23.7	

SCHEDULE

N19 at Temple	N30 Colorado St.	D12 UNLV	J12 Florida	J29 Tennessee	F12 at South Carolina	F26 LSU
N22 Furman	D3 at Virginia	D20-22 San Juan Shootout	J15 Mississippi	F2 at Mississippi	F16 Vanderbilt	M2 at Alabama
N24 Nicholls St.	D5 Wofford	D30 Belmont	J22 at Arkansas	F5 Mississippi St.	F19 at Georgia	M5 Arkansas
N27 Louisiana Tech	D7 at Coll. of Charleston	J5 at Mississippi St.	J26 Alabama	F9 at LSU	F23 at Kentucky	

6. Mississippi

WHAT WE LIKE: After having a freshman start at point guard each of the last two seasons, Ole Miss finally has experience at the position. Sophomore Todd Abernethy, who started every game last year, will be directing a more up-tempo Rebels attack, a change being made to compensate for a dropoff in talent. Seniors Ed Glass and Marvin Moore, junior college transfers who struggled in Ole Miss' structured offense last season, should be more effective in an open-court game. All of the returnees understand the team's new commitment to defense. And Jeremy Parnell, a 6-9 freshman, should have an immediate impact at power forward.

WHAT SCARES US: Ole Miss doesn't have any proven scorers with the loss of Justin Reed and Aaron Harper, who combined for 35 of the team's 63.1 points per game last season. The top returning scorer is Abernethy, who averaged 5.4. Lack of offense is why coach Rod Barnes decided to change styles. But how will the players adjust and can they make a smooth transition? Most had a tendency to stand around on offense and watch Reed and Harper. That will have to change if the Rebels hope to avoid a third straight losing season.

X-FACTOR: With the struggles of the last two seasons, during which the Rebels finished 14-15 and 13-15 and an unsightly 9-23 in conference play, interest has fallen off in Oxford. What had become a tough road trip was much easier last year, when the Rebels averaged just 3,638 fans. The team has to start well to draw fans and help re-establish a strong home-court advantage.

REBELS DATA

Coach: Rod Barnes (113-76, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 3-3).

Assistant coaches: Eric Bozeman (6 years), Tracy Dildy (1st), Michael White (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-15. SEC West: 5-11/T4th.

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie, West Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Oxford, Miss. Website: www.olemisssports.com

Home court: Tad Smith Coliseum (8,700).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
2	F	Sam Agee	6-6/212	So.	0.6	0.3	0.0	66.7	-	100.0
10	G	Todd Abernethy*	6-1/188	So.	5.4	1.5	2.9	40.7	62.1	36.7
34	C	Dwayne Curtis	6-9/235	So.	Aubu	rn tran	sfer m	ust sit ou	t 2004-0)5.
20	G	Bam Doyne	6-4/170	So.	1.5	1.4	0.6	21.6	73.3	25.0
44	F/C	Tommie Eddie*	6-7/256	Sr.	5.3	3.0	0.4	53.6	51.7	_
4	F/G	Kendrick Fox	6-7/212	Sr.	5.1	2.5	0.8	41.0	52.6	35.4
24	G	Ed Glass	6-2/212	Sr.	1.9	1.3	0.8	36.4	50.0	0.0
54	F	Lonnie Jackson	6-8/196	Jr.	0.4	0.4	0.1	33.3	0.0	0.0
12	G	Justin Johnson*	6-0/186	Sr.	5.3	1.9	1.3	39.2	65.0	30.0
3	F	Marvin Moore	6-6/217	Sr.	2.0	0.9	0.0	60.6	71.4	_
11	F	Londrick Nolen	6-6/180	Jr.	Led J	C team	last ye	ar with 1	16.9 ppg	, 4.6 apg
21	G	Cavadas Nunnery	5-9/170	Sr.	1.2	1.3	2.0	40.7	55.0	0.0
32	F/C	Jeremy Parnell	6-9/236	Fr.	Two-	time A	II-State	player in	Arkans	as.
15	F/G	Brandon Patterson	6-6/170	Fr.	An in	npressi	ve all-a	round pl	ayer.	
33	F	Chris Rhodes	6-7/225	Sr.	0.4	0.8	0.1	38.5	50.0	-
1	G	Brian Smith	5-11/170	Fr.	Son	of Kent	ucky co	ach has l	h.s. assis	ts record
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	-		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F/G	Aaı	ron Harper*	6-7/217	16.5	5	.1	3.3	44.5	67.5	38.7

6-8/240 18.5 7.5 1.5 46.4 73.1 23.7

SCHEDULE

N14-16 BCA Classic	D11 at Memphis	D21 Tennessee-Martin	J5 at Arkansas	J19 Kentucky	F2 Auburn	F19 Tennessee
N19 Tennessee Tech	D13 Nicholls St.	at Tupelo, Miss.	J8 Mississippi St.	J22 Alabama	F5 Arkansas	F26 at Mississippi St.
D1 at Arkansas St.	D15 Troy	D26 at Va. Commonwealth	J12 Georgia	J26 at LSU	F12 at Alabama	M2 LSU
D4 Florida St.	D18 Louisiana-Monroe	D31 SE Louisiana	J15 at Auburn	J29 at Vanderbilt	F16 at Florida	M6 at South Carolina

Justin Reed*

Pacific-1

Marquee value suffers, but conference still expects improvement

he cynical view of Stanford's long undefeated run and Washington's strong 2003-04 finish is that both teams merely chopped up mediocre Pac-10 competition. Traditional contenders Arizona, Oregon and California all regressed, and only three teams reached the NCAA Tournament. None made it past the event's opening weekend for the first time since 1999.

So it's not exactly a stretch to say the conference will be better this season. The question is by how much.

The NBA once again dulled the Pac-10's marquee value. It not only lured away Stanford's Josh Childress, Arizona's Andre Iguodala and UCLA's Trevor Ariza before their senior seasons, it also claimed USC's Robert Swift before he even attended a class. Then there was the shocking cross-bay jump of coach Mike Montgomery from Stanford to the NBA's Golden State Warriors.

Arizona is the safest bet to win league honors, but the Wildcats have leadership and teamwork issues. Stanford lost three starters and has a lack of depth, while Washington didn't add much interior muscle. Those teams should have enough to qualify for the NCAA Tournament, but there's no guarantee anyone else in the league will join them. The fourth and fifth spots appear to be up for grabs. Cal, with center Leon Powe trying to return from multiple knee surgeries, is a question, and Oregon will rely heavily on freshman Malik Hairston.

Oregon State, UCLA and Washington State are improving and have the potential to beat any team in the league. And USC, despite losing Swift, assembled a strong recruiting class to complement its senior leadership. Look for patient, defensiveminded Washington State and Arizona State to struggle at the bottom.

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Stanford	17	1	30	2
Washington	12	6	19	12
Arizona	11	7	20	10
Oregon	9	9	18	13
California	9	9	13	15
USC	8	10	13	15
Washington State	7	11	13	16
UCLA	7	11	11	17
Oregon State	6	12	12	16
Arizona State	4	14	10	17

Washington. The infectious enthusiasm of Nate Robinson and unselfish play of his teammates helped transform the league's worst team chemistry into its best. The Huskies have underachieved in recent years, and were pretty much given up for dead when they started last season 5-8. But they ended Stanford's 26-0 run and finished the season with an NCAA berth. In his third season, coach Lorenzo Romar now has the momentum to upgrade recruiting and make the Huskies a perennial power.

DESCENDING: Arizona

State. Ike Diogu no longer is one of the Pac-10's most intimidating players. But that's because teams can double- or triple-team him while ignoring his punchless teammates. The Sun Devils will be only marginally better this season, and coach Rob Evans, who led the Devils to an NCAA Tournament bid in 2002-03, could be on the hot

PLAYERS ON

1. Matt Haryasz, F, Stanford. As a sophomore last season, Haryasz displayed a stronger physique and the kind of offensive skills that should make him a go-to force. With the Cardinal needing to replace plenty of scoring, now is the time for Haryasz to make & a serious move.

2. Mustafa Shakur, G,

Arizona. The quiet sophomore should be ready to take charge of the Wildcats. The smooth point guard has the athleticism, height and shooting ability to become a top playmaker, and a summer with USA Basketball's 20-and-under team should



help. If he can become the leader the Wildcats expect, Arizona could dominate. 2. Gregg Guenther, F, USC. The Trojan tight end quit the football team to concentrate on basketball, which is a blessing for coach Henry Bibby since football season doesn't end early at USC. Guenther can bully his

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- 1. UCLA: Four top 100 recruits help. Inside talent Lorenzo Mata is a start at rebuilding the frontcourt, but guards Jordan Farmar and Arron Afflalo plus swingman Josh Shipp form the nucleus of the Bruins' future.
- 2. Oregon: Late signee Malik Hairston will be an impact freshman. Maarty Leunen will get time up front. Perimeter talents Chamberlain Oguchi and Bruce Taylor add depth. JC point Kenny Lowe must step up fast.
- 3. Southern California: High-flying 6-6 wing Nick Young has "future star" written all over his game. Dwayne Shackleford could start at point, and Gabriel Pruitt and Young will battle veterans for other spots.
- 4. Arizona: Imports Daniel Dillon and Charles Okwandu are questions, but Mohamed Tangara will help immediately on the glass. Jawann McClellan and Jesus Verdejo will pick up some of Andre Iguodala's shots.
- 5. Arizona State: Explosive wings Tim Pierce and JC Bryson Krueger head up a deep class and will challenge for starting spots as newcomers. JC point Tyrone Jackson must evolve into a Pac-10 floor leader.
- 6. California: The Golden Bears add an athletic group of forwards who will add depth inside.
- 7. Stanford: Taj Finger and Peter Prowitt will see lots of time off the bench for the Cardinal.
- 8. Washington: This ranking will be too low if transfer Jamaal Williams returns to his glass-eating form. Wide-bodied Zach Johnson will add depth on blocks, and Joel Smith should earn time on the wing.
- 9. Washington State: The Cougars needed bodies and added frontcourt size in Chris Henry and Robbie Cowgill. But one of three prep points, likely Derrick Low, will determine how fast the team improves.
- 10. Oregon State: Prep wing man Marcel Jones will be good one day, but the Beavers need transfers Jason Fontenet (point guard) and Nick DeWitz (small forward) to come through in a big way.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

way to the basket and has athleticism to maneuver for a solid jumper. He also works hard enough to meet Bibby's demanding standards and is a respected team leader.

BEST BETS:

1. Although there never was scientific proof that the trampoline-like floor at Stanford's 36-year-old Maples Pavilion caused injuries, anecdotal evidence is strong: Foot stress fractures, knee troubles and back problems have been reported by members of both the men's and women's teams. So the floor is being replaced. The only drawback is that the Cardinal must play its early season home games at Santa Clara while the arena is undergoing a renovation that should be completed by the new year. 2. Two trends are unlikely to change at

Arizona. First, a disgruntled player or two will leave before the end of the fall semester because of playing time concerns. Then the team will storm out of the gate, always tough in November (the Wildcats are undefeated in three Preseason NITs). March is the month of uncertainty for the Wildcats. 3. Pac-10 coaches will moan and groan about the policy of only eight teams being invited to the conference tournament, but a compelling race for the seventh and eighth spots could trump their concerns. An otherwise ho-hum USC-Oregon State season finale last season was full of suspense; it could happen again this year, perhaps a Washington State-California regular-season final showdown.

Bruce Pascoe covers Arizona and the Pac-10 for the Arizona Daily Star.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Arizona	30	48.6	78.6	38.6	39.2	18.7	6.9	4.5	14.9	87.1
Washington	31	46.6	71.3	35.3	35.6	16.2	7.3	2.9	15.2	82.0
USC	28	43.2	66.3	30.8	36.4	13.7	8.9	3.3	15.3	75.4
Oregon	31	45.7	72.4	39.5	33.5	16.2	5.3	2.0	15.1	74.9
Arizona State	27	43.1	73.5	33.7	35.6	15.8	5.6	3.2	15.1	74.1
Stanford	32	47.9	75.1	36.4	36.8	16.0	6.4	4.4	14.2	73.6
Oregon State	28	41.9	69.6	34.1	36.0	14.3	7.3	2.3	14.1	72.1
California	28	43.7	62.8	31.0	35.1	13.8	6.2	3.0	14.1	66.9
UCLA	28	46.2	64.2	32.9	34.5	14.4	4.5	2.6	15.8	66.5
Washington State	29	40.0	74.9	33.5	29.1	11.3	6.1	1.8	12.1	57.9

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Washington State	29	45.7	69.0	34.7	31.3	11.2	4.3	2.5	13.9	59.7
Stanford	32	38.5	69.7	32.9	30.1	9.9	6.1	2.3	14.6	60.5
California	28	43.5	72.8	37.6	33.0	14.9	5.9	3.2	14.4	67.2
UCLA	28	43.3	71.1	35.5	33.0	13.2	6.3	2.3	12.5	70.0
Oregon	31	44.7	68.9	32.4	34.2	13.6	6.4	2.5	13.5	73.2
Oregon State	28	46.0	68.8	36.6	37.5	15.1	6.8	3.7	16.8	74.0
Arizona State	27	45.0	70.5	35.7	35.7	17.2	7.1	3.3	14.1	76.6
Arizona	30	44.1	70.7	36.2	35.2	17.3	7.2	2.1	15.4	78.5
USC	28	45.6	72.3	36.5	37.0	15.8	6.6	2.3	16.6	78.8
Washington	31	46.5	70.7	33.9	35.8	15.8	6.6	2.9	17.0	79.0

PREDICTIONS

7. Oregon State 1. Arizona* 2. Stanford* 8. California 9. Washington State 3. Washington* 10. Arizona State 4. Oregon* 5. UCLA *NCAA tourney pick 6. USC

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIR	ST TEAM			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Chris Hernandez, Stanford	6-2	190	Jr.
G	Nate Robinson, Washington	5-9	180	Jr.
G/F	Hassan Adams, Arizona	6-4	201	Jr.
F	David Lucas, Oregon State	6-8	246	Sr.
F/C	Ike Diogu, Arizona State	6-8	250	Jr.
SE	COND TEAM			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Malik Hairston, Oregon	6-6	200	Fr.

Thomas Kelati, Washington St. 6-5 184 Sr.

6-3 178 So.

6-7 198 Sr. 6-10 225 Jr.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Matt Haryasz, Stanford

Mustafa Shakur, Arizona

G/F Dijon Thompson, UCLA

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Hassan Adams, G/F, Arizona

Adams, who has a 44-inch vertical leap, is an opponent's nightmare on both ends of the court. Few players can match his hunger for cleaning the rim, a quality that made him seem much bigger than 6-4 last season when he played power forward. Arizona will be in better position to unleash Adams from his more natural small forward position this season, giving him the opportunity to score from the perimeter or blow past defenders. His ranginess, intensity and quickness make him the guy you simply do not want guarding you.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Malik Hairston, G, Oregon

Unlike the league's other marquee recruits, Hairston will have to fill a huge offensive void immediately. That's fine with Hairston, who is a prolific scorer off the dribble or from beyond the arc. He won't replace Luke Jackson's all-around game right away, but he could go a long way toward keeping the Ducks competitive in a transition year.

MOST UNDERRATED

Brandon Roy, G, Washington

Nate Robinson attracts the cameras with his electric play, but no Husky fills a box score better than Roy, who led the team in rebounding and was second in steals

and scoring. His unselfishness cements the team's chemistry.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Salim Stoudamire, Arizona Best playmaker: Nate Robinson, Washington Best NBA prospect: Mustafa Shakur, Arizona Best defender: Hassan Adams, Arizona Most versatile: Nick Robinson, Stanford

<u>1. Arizona</u>

WHAT WE LIKE: Lute Olson has regained his favorite motivational tool: depth. If Salim Stoudamire gives his infamous pouty look ... if Isaiah Fox doesn't run hard ... if Chris Rodgers takes a quick or ill-advised shot, the coach can immediately go to his bench and find a quality replacement. That wasn't the case last season, when the Wildcats limped through most of their schedule with six or seven good players. Arizona was forced to add Serbian forward Ivan Radenovic at midseason and remove a much-needed redshirt from

freshman center Kirk Walters. Players became complacent

position. Simply getting into 5-on-5s in practice sessions

won't be easy, which will allow Olson to do what he does

best: teach his players during intense and competitive sit-

uations. Depth is a plus because forward Andre Iguodala

is the only significant loss from a 20-10 team that also

son and adds five top-flight freshman recruits. Fox's

gets back Fox from a knee injury suffered early last sea-

return will allow Olson to return to the more traditional

two-man post system that he prefers, featuring Fox and

Channing Frye. Hassan Adams also could blossom as a

he was forced to be last season. Adams is a phenomenal

athlete who is known for running the wing and creating

approach in the paint. Adams and the perimeter-oriented

Radenovic give the Wildcats the ability to match up with

with his defense, but he also takes a workmanlike

a four-out scheme when necessary.

more natural small forward instead of the power forward

and the team's chemistry suffered. Now, Olson has a depth chart that is literally two or three deep at every

SCHEDULE

N15-17 Preseason NIT N21 at Virginia N24-26 Preseason NIT N30 Wyoming

D5 Mississippi State ...at Anaheim D11 Utah

D18 at Marquette
D22 Wyoming

D28-30 Fiesta Bowl Classic J2 Arizona St.

J6 at California J8 at Stanford

J13 USC J15 UCLA

J20 at Oregon J22 at Oregon State

J27 Washington J29 Washington State

F3 California F5 Stanford F10 at USC

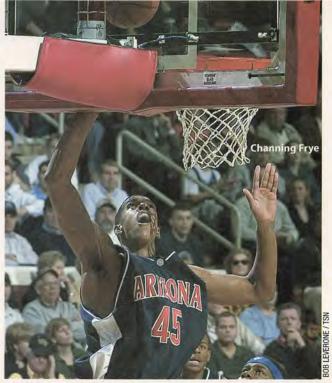
F12 at UCLA F17 Oregon

F17 Oregon F19 Oregon State

F24 at Washington F26 at Washington State M5 at Arizona State WHAT SCARES US: Who will take a leadership role? Frye tried to last season but didn't get the ball that often and lacked that in-your-face personality. Point guard Mustafa Shakur was too quiet as a freshman and tended to defer to the older players. Stoudamire and Rodgers can be distant. The best scenario is for Shakur to take charge and let the veterans help lead by committee. The loss of Iguodala will not affect scoring or defense as much as it

will ball distribution. The Wildcats will miss his court vision and passing ability. Team defense, usually an Arizona strength, also must improve. The Wildcats were mediocre defending against backdoors and on the perimeter last season, despite their athleticism. And their high-scoring offense often was neutralized by a porous defense. Although guard Jawann McClellan might push Stoudamire and Rodgers on the wing, it isn't clear what impact the other freshmen could have. Rugged Mali native Mohamed Tangara should give the Wildcats some defense and rebounding, but he's raw offensively. Jesus Verdejo will have a chance to work into the wing mix. Daniel Dillon's best shot to play right away is backup point guard, where Rodgers and Stoudamire were spotty behind Shakur. The team's fragile cohesiveness also will be tested by cultural diversity. The suddenly global Wildcats now have players from five different countries. Radenovic admitted to homesickness last season after coming straight from Serbia-Montenegro, but all other foreigners have spent at least a year in the U.S.

X-FACTOR: Fox's easygoing personality has been tested at Arizona. He spent his first two years being criticized by coaches for carrying excessive weight—he entered school with 280-plus pounds on his 6-9 frame—and, after reporting in the best shape of his career last season, he blew out his knee in the second game. He also was embarrassed by a bagel-stealing episode last fall. The Wildcats need Fox healthy and fit, for on-court reasons as well as off. He could provide much-needed bulk inside and give Olson the option of forming a strong post duo with Frye, but his locker room role could be just as important. Fox's presence was missed last season by a young team that was fractured in several ways. If he can help diffuse the disruptive chemistry issues, the Wildcats have enough talent to play until April.



A PAC-10 COACH SAYS:

They lose a lottery player, but they just reload. Hassan Adams is so good. It'll hurt to lose (Andre) Iguodala, but he's just one guy. The way they ended the season, I don't think they were happy with that. A year of maturity will help Channing Frye. He's one of the best big guys in our league. They do have problems with Salim Stoudamire. When he's on his best behavior, he plays really hard and does good things. If you let them play the way they want to play, you're going to have a very hard time. The question is, can they play all kinds of ways?

WILDCATS DATA

Coach: Lute Olson (519-157, 21 years; 711-249 overall, 31 years; NCAA Tournament 42-25; won NCAA title in 1997).

Assistant coaches: Jim Rosborough (15 years), Rodney Tention (7), Josh Pastner (2).

2003-04 record: 20-10. Pac-10: 11-7/3rd. Lost to Seton Hall in NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2003

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1984.

Site: Tucson, Ariz. Website: www.arizonaathletics.com

Home court: McKale Center (14,545).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr	Control of the Contro							
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	G/F	Hassan Adams*	6-4/201	Jr.	17.2	7.3	1.6	54.2	73.3	38.4
11	G	Matt Babcock	6-1/170	So.	JC wa	lk-on	hopes t	o make a	an impa	ct
30	F	Matt Brase	6-6/215	Sr.	1.0	0.4	0.3	55.6	-	100.0
44	F	Bret Brielmaier	6-8/230	Fr.	Walk-	on is	No.3 in	all-time	FG% in M	Minnesot
12	G	Daniel Dillon	6-4/190	Fr.	Austr	alian	who car	play bo	th guard	position
2	F	Isaiah Fox	6-9/269	Jr.	8.5	6.5	0	80.0	50.0	_
45	C	Channing Frye*	6-11/248	Sr.	15.9	7.4	1.9	54.8	78.8	60.0
5	G	Jawann McClellan	6-5/202	Fr.	McDo	nald's	All-Am	erican fr	om Hou	ston.
14	G	Beau Muhlbach	6-3/195	So.	0.9	0.3	0.3	33.3	100.0	100.0
55	F	Ivan Radenovic	6-10/218	So.	5.8	2.9	0.7	39.7	76.7	25.7
13	G	Chris Rodgers	6-4/200	Jr.	8.6	2.3	2.0	43.2	84.5	42.2
15	G	Mustafa Shakur*	6-3/178	So.	9.4	3.6	4.5	51.9	80.3	39.6
20	G	Salim Stoudamire*	6-1/177	Sr.	16.3	2.7	3.0	45.2	79.5	41.5
33	F	Mohamed Tangara	6-9/230	Fr.	A mo	nster	defende	er and rel	bounder	
23	G/F	Jesus Verdejo	6-4/190	Fr.	Versa	tile ar	d a stro	ng outsi	de shoo	ter.
54	C	Kirk Walters	6-10/212	So.	0.9	0.8	0.0	25.0	82.4	-
KEY	LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
-	An	dre Iguodala*	6-8/207	12.9	8.	4	4.9	45.0	78.8	31.5

National rank 21

WHAT WE LIKE: Despite the NBA's double whammy—luring away the Cardinal's coach (Mike Montgomery) and best player (Josh Childress)—the core of Stanford's program remains intact. New coach Trent Johnson, who led Nevada to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 last season, was an assistant under Montgomery in the 1990s and kept two of his assistants to minimize the transition. Johnson does not figure to radically restructure the system, either. You'll see the same highlow post schemes, although the Cardinal occasionally might run more

SCHEDULE

Concordia College at Santa Clara N19 San Francisco at Oakland N22-24 Maui Invitational N28 at Santa Clara

D11 at Michigan St. D13 at Denver D17-18 Nevada Tournament D22 Dartmouth

at Santa Clara D31 at Washington St. at Washington J2 Arizona St. Arizona J15 at California

120 at UCLA J22 at USC J27 Oregon St. J29 Oregon

F3 at Arizona St F5 at Arizona F9 UC Davis

F12 California F17 UCLA F19 USC

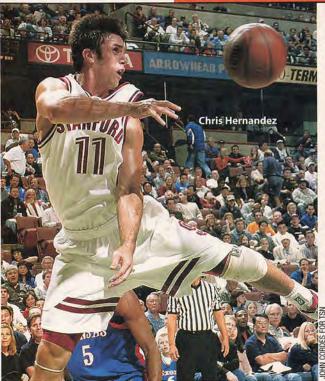
F24 at Oregon St. F26 at Oregon Washington St. M5 Washington

of an uptempo style. Johnson also has the league's best point guard back to run the show. Chris Hernandez won't overwhelm you with talent the way Childress did, but his toughness and confidence are unmatched. Hernandez runs the complicated Stanford offense well, looking to pass first but not hesitating to launch his trustworthy jumper. The bulk of the Cardinal scoring came from the perimeter last season, but it could shift inside this year with Rob Little and Matt Haryasz. Both players made dramatic improvement as a result of experience and weight change: Little shed pounds to make him more mobile and a better rebounder; Haryasz gained some to hold his own inside. Little has big hands and a body that's hard to push around, while the more skilled Haryasz has the potential to post big numbers. And, believe it or not, versatile Nick "Pops" Robinson will be back (he turns 25 in November). Robinson will be penciled in at small forward but can play shooting guard or power forward behind Haryasz. Stanford's veterans have seen hard times before—they saw Casey Jacobsen and Curtis Borchardt leave early (2003) but still posted a 24-9 record the following season. A similar mentality will help Stanford challenge for the league title in 2004-05, although getting past the second round of the NCAA Tournament, the point at which Stanford has lost five of the last six seasons, will be no easier.

WHAT SCARES US: One reason Montgomery

might have left: Stanford's academic standards make it difficult to recruit athletes like Childress, who created his own shots and gave the team a much more dynamic look. Now he is gone and so are 3-point shooter Matt Lottich, who was deadly in the clutch, and athletic forward Justin Davis. The losses leave Stanford extremely thin inside and without a proven long-range threat on the wing besides Hernandez. And there isn't much size after Haryasz, Little and freshman Peter Prowitt. So while Stanford normally incubates post freshmen for a year or two, the Cardinal will be forced to insert Prowitt right away and also might need Robinson to help inside at power forward. Evan Moore could become a fourth player in the post, but he and guard Mark Bradford also play football and will not be available before December. Although the Cardinal managed to go 9-0 without Childress early last season, Lottich played a major role during that stretch, scoring 34 points in a win over Gonzaga and burning Kansas with five 3-pointers. Stanford has a hole at shooting guard for either Dan Grunfeld or Fred Washington to fill. Neither is a proven scorer, but Grunfeld was fine in short stretches last season and Washington is an athletic lefthander who can get to the basket. As always, the Cardinal will have to cross its fingers over Hernandez, whose fearlessness often translates into injury. Behind him is junior Jason Haas, a confident ballhandler.

X-FACTOR: As a sophomore last season, Haryasz made Arizona coaches regret they didn't try to keep him from leaving their state. He was lightly recruited and a virtual unknown on the recruiting scene, a skinny kid from the remote northern Arizona town of Page until he traveled to play in summer tournaments after his junior year of high school. Now he is poised to become the Cardinal's leading scorer—a mobile big man with good offensive and rebounding skills. Haryasz, who averaged only 17 minutes per game last season, could more than double that this season. He will be on the floor as much as his stamina will allow.



A PAC-10 COACH SAYS:

They could be very good, but there's a lot of uncertainty in terms of the coaching change and losing Josh Childress, Matt Lottich and Justin Davis. They're the most uncertain of the top teams in our league. They got a jump on finding their chemistry because Davis and Childress were out for so long last season, and they slid another guy in each time. Chris Hernandez helps a tremendous amount. I think (Matt) Haryasz is a very good player; a skilled, athletic 6-10ish forward. He'll fit in nicely. They have a nice nucleus.

CARDINAL DATA

Josh Childress

Justin Davis*

Joe Kirchofer

Matt Lottich*

Coach: Trent Johnson (1st year; 79-74 overall, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 2-1). Assistant coaches: Eric Reveno (7 years), Tony Fuller (5), L.J. Hepp (1st). 2003-04 record: 30-2. Pac-10: 17-1/1st. Lost to Alabama in NCAA Phoenix Region second round

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1994. Site: Palo Alto, Calif. Website: www.gostanford.com

Home court: Maples Pavilion (7,391).

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
2	G	Mark Bradford	6-2/190	So.	0.6	0.1	0.1	40.0	-	50.0
31	F	Taj Finger	6-8/195	Fr.	Can p	lay in	the pos	t and on	the peri	meter.
20	F	Dan Grunfeld	6-6/210	Jr.	3.4	1.4	0.8	35.6	78.3	22.6
32	G	Jason Haas	6-2/190	Jr.	1.6	0.8	1.3	37.1	91.3	33.3
52	F	Matt Haryasz	6-10/225	Jr.	6.9	4.1	0.3	52.9	68.9	0.0
11	G	Chris Hernandez*	6-2/190	Jr.	10.0	2.1	4.3	44.9	91.4	46.0
42	C	Rob Little*	6-10/265	Sr.	9.7	5.5	0.6	57.1	55.2	0.0
15	F	Evan Moore	6-7/235	So.	1.3	0.7	0.0	37.5	25.0	0.0
10	G	Tim Morris	6-4/215	Fr.	Redsh	nirted	in 2003	-04.		
55	C	Peter Prowitt	6-10/245	Fr.	Great	score	in the	paint.		
21	F/G	Nick Robinson	6-6/200	Sr.	6.1	3.5	2.2	45.8	71.7	31.0
44	F	Fred Washington	6-5/205	So.	2.4	1.2	0.5	47.2	71.0	25.0
3	G	Carlton Weatherby	6-0/175	Jr.	0.4	_	0.4	40.0	-	0.0

15.7

10.9

3.8

12.3

7.5

6.6

3.3

3.1

6-8/205

6-9/230

6-9/250

6-4/205

48.8

55.4 66.7

2.7

1.0 57.2

0.2

3.5

82.1

60.5

86.2

39.5

35.1

3. Washington

WHAT WE LIKE: Go ahead, tell 5-9 Nate Robinson he reminds you of Gary Coleman. He loves it. Robinson is a one-man highlight reel, not only because he can get to the basket with flair, but also because he's an unshakable competitor in the face of heckling fans and taller opponents. Robinson thrives with the game on the line, igniting teammates with his tenacity and confidence. And he excelled last season when Washington won game after game through a must-win stretch run. The gutsy Robinson and the talented, unselfish Brandon

SCHEDULE

N19 Montana N24-27 Gr. Alaska Shootout D1 at Gonzaga

D5 Eastern Washington D7 San Diego State

D11 at Loyola Marymount D19 N.C. State

D22 Sacred Heart D24 Houston

D31 California J2 Stanford J6 at USC

J8 at UCLA J13 Oregon

J15 Oregon State
J22 Washington State

J27 at Arizona J29 at Arizona State

F3 USC F5 UCLA

F10 at Oregon F12 at Oregon State

F19 at Washington State F24 Arizona

F26 Arizona State M3 at California

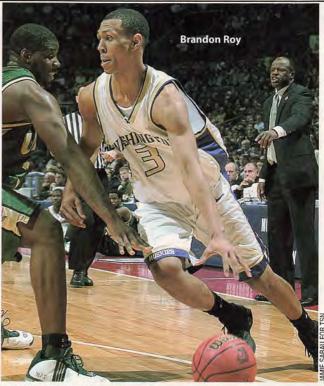
M5 at Stanford

Roy drove Washington's startling finish that resulted in an NCAA Tournament invitation. The once-woeful Huskies won 14 times over their last 18 games, dropping unbeaten Stanford and outplaying Arizona three times. Washington should retain the selfless cohesion—five players averaged double-figure scoring—that evolved from what once was a fragmented, one-on-one oriented bunch. Will Conroy and Robinson, both scorers, figure to share the point guard duties this year. Robinson's offseason flirtation with the NBA convinced him of the need to develop his playmaking. There's no question about Robinson's ability to make plays, but he's not a true point guard and whether he can continue to make others around him better at the next level will determine his future. The Huskies beefed up with the addition of New Mexico transfer Jamaal Williams, an aggressive inside presence who plays taller than his 6-5 frame, and Mike Jensen returns as a strong post player. Only reserve guard Curtis Allen does not return from the team that made one of the nation's most dramatic turnarounds last season. Encores always are difficult, but contention for a Pac-10 title and a second straight visit to the NCAA Tournament are reachable goals.

WHAT SCARES US: This team's interior defense and rebounding. Since no significant player is taller than 6-8,

improvement in those areas won't be easy. The 2003-04 Huskies ran a terrific transition offense but their halfcourt defense was porous and they finished last in the Pac-10 in both scoring defense and field-goal defense. Size obviously is a shortcoming: The team's biggest player, center Anthony Washington, was only of limited help last season while Jones and Jensen both have been forced to play out of position-Jones at power forward instead of small forward and Jensen at center instead of power forward. But more is expected of Hakeem Rollins, who made an increasing impact as last season wore on, and Williams is a proven inside player who posted respectable numbers (11.3 points per game, 5.1 rebounds) at New Mexico. The chemistry, so vital in fueling the Huskies' late streak, must remain tight because there's not a whole lot of fresh talent making this team better. The Huskies cannot afford to let high expectations drive a wedge into their unselfishness, creating more star-seeking individuals than teammates. And what happens if Washington has a key injury or two? The Huskies cruised through last season without any real adversity, but such easy rides are typically the exception rather than the rule. Even though the Huskies are thin inside and porous on defense, they shouldn't fall further than third place in the Pac-10—they have too many talented players now with valuable experience. It wouldn't be a shock to see them win the conference, either.

X-FACTOR: The Huskies' emergence late last season was due in equal parts to the conference's down year and the fact they could sneak up on unsuspecting opponents. How serious could opponents take a Washington team that opened the season 5-8? But now the league is getting stronger and conference opponents are no longer considering them an easy mark, making them particularly vulnerable away from home. Nonconference teams figure to put asterisks next to the Huskies on their calendars, as well. Washington will be the hunted this time around, a feeling its players haven't really had since they went to the Sweet 16 in 1998. It remains to be seen how they react.



A PAC-10 COACH SAYS:

The way they finished will give them positive momentum. Now, they did win a lot of close games, so that could go either way. It's a good lesson for everybody; it's a fine line from being just good to being great, and they crossed that line late in the year. Their guards' athleticism is impressive. Nate Robinson will be a leader regardless of whether he's a pure point guard. Their perimeter guys all handle the ball and make good decisions. Whether that makes Nate more of a 1 . . . they had such success, I think they'll try to keep their system intact.

HUSKIES DATA

Coach: Lorenzo Romar (29-29, 2 years; 122-117 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Assistant coaches: Ken Bone (2 years), Cameron Dollar (2), Jim Shaw (1st). 2003-04 record: 19-12. Pac-10: 12-6/2nd. Lost to UAB in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 1985 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Seattle. Website: www.gohuskies.com Home court: Bank of America Arena (10,000).

ROSTER

_	3-04 9	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 200	14-05 st	tarter						
No.		Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
20	G	Ryan Appleby	6-3/165	So.	Florid	la tran	sfer wi	ll redshir	t in 2004	1-05.	
11	G	Brandon Burmeister	6-4/190	So.	1.6	0.4	0.1	50.0	_	50.0	
5	G	Will Conroy*	6-2/190	Sr.	12.3	2.6	4.6	45.0	71.2	31.6	
21	F	Matt Fletcher	6-7/220	Jr.	Redshirted last season; great rebounder.						
22	F	Hans Gasser	6-9/225	So.	0.9	0.7	0.6	25.0	57.1	-	
42	F	Mike Jensen*	6-8/240	Jr.	7.6	4.5	0.9	46.8	60.7	41.4	
52	G	Alex Johnson	6-3/185	Sr.	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	
34	C	Zach Johnson	6-9/250	Fr.	Will redshirt this season to rehab knees.						
15	F	Bobby Jones*	6-6/200	Jr.	11.2	4.9	0.8	57.0	66.4	12.5	
32	F	Zane Potter	6-6/185	Jr.	0.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	50.0	_	
2	G	Nate Robinson*	5-9/180	Jr.	13.2	3.9	2.7	44.7	85.3	35.4	
4	F/C	Hakeem Rollins	6-7/220	Sr.	5.5	4.1	0.5	45.4	62.2	0.0	
3	G	Brandon Roy*	6-6/200	Jr.	12.9	5.3	3.3	48.0	78.5	22.2	
1	G	Tre Simmons	6-5/195	Sr.	10.8	3.4	1.5	44.9	76.4	40.3	
0	G/F	Joel Smith	6-5/190	Fr.	Athle	tic, hic	h-ener	gy playe	r.		
30	C	Anthony Washington	6-9/245	Jr.	3.3	2.1	0.1	40.9	51.4	-	
24	F	Jamaal Williams	6-5/225	Jr.	Trans	fer fro	m New	Mexico	can score		
(E)	LO	SSES									
05.	Nar	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Cur	tis Allen	6-0/170	4.9	1	5	15	42.9	80.0	36.9	

4. Oregon

WHAT WE LIKE: If the Ducks don't blow by opponents with athleticism, they might bowl them over with size. Freshman wing Malik Hairston and sophomore point guard Aaron Brooks will keep the offensive engine racing as fast as it was under the Lukes (Ridnour and Jackson). But Oregon also has five capable players who stand 6-9 or taller. Ian Crosswhite will play mostly at power forward, pulling defenders outside with a strong mid-range jumper, while 7-foot freshman Ray Schafer could pressure Mitch Platt for the starting center job. The Ducks also have intriguing options inside with another 7-footer, Matt Short, and 6-9 Maarty Leunen. Brooks, who missed 10 games with a broken hand, made an obvious difference when healthy, and Hairston was one of the top high school players in the nation.

WHAT SCARES US: Who will shoot the ball? The Ducks lost 82.5 percent of their 3-point shooting and only Brooks poses much of a threat among returnees. Oregon will need Hairston and fellow freshman Bryce Taylor to score from the perimeter, but Jackson's assists, steals and rebounding totals cannot so easily be replaced. If the Ducks can make up that difference and find a way to mesh their talented freshmen, they could contend for the postseason.

X-FACTOR: Hairston chose Oregon because he liked Jackson's game and knew the Ducks needed immediate scoring help. The trade-off is that he now faces big-time pressure. Hairston will need to produce from November on, with his ability to shoot 3s or drive inside. The Ducks don't have the margin for error to tolerate freshman mistakes.

DUCKS DATA

Coach: Ernie Kent (135-81, 7 years; 225-161 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 3-4).

Assistant coaches: Scott Duncan (5 years), Fred Litzenberger (3), Kenny Payne (1st).

2003-04 record: 18-13. Pac-10: 9-9/T4th. Lost to Michigan in NIT semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Eugene, Ore. Website: www.goducks.com

Home court: McArthur Court (9,087).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pro	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter				-	
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
00	G	Aaron Brooks*	6-0/160	So.	7.0	2.4	2.7	37.1	78.8	36.8
11	F	Ian Crosswhite*	6-11/250	Jr.	12.5	5.0	1.8	56.2	76.1	20.7
1	G	Malik Hairston	6-6/200	Fr.	One o	f the	nation	's top pr	ospects	
2	G	Jordan Kent	6-5/200	So.	1.8	1.2	0.7	30.2	44.4	18.8
10	F	Maarty Leunen	6-9/210	Fr.	Can pl	ay all	five po	sitions.		
14	G	Brandon Lincoln	6-4/200	Jr.	3.1	1.3	1.4	32.3	57.9	26.1
12	G	Kenny Love	6-2/175	So.	JC trai	nsfer i	s a pur	backup	point gu	lard.
25	G	Chamberlain Oguchi	6-5/190	Fr.	A dan	gerou	s 3-poi	nt shoote	er.	
3	F	Mitch Platt*	6-10/270	So.	5.4	3.6	0.6	50.0	30.6	0.0
45	(Ray Schafer	7-0/230	Fr.	Was re	edshir	ted in 2	2003-04.		
5	C	Matt Short	7-0/235	Jr.	0.5	1.5	0.1	33.3	0.00	-
21	G	Adrian Stelly	6-3/175	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
4	G	Bryce Taylor	6-5/180	Fr.	Shoot	ing g	uard is	a great	scorer.	
42	F	Adam Zahn	6-8/225	So.	1.6	1.8	0.2	27.3	60.9	_
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	Jay	Anderson	6-9/220	2.6	2.	2	0.4	42.2	72.4	38.5
G	Jar	nes Davis*	5-10/175	10.6	1.	4	2.1	43.9	81.8	41.1
G	Lul	ke Jackson*	6-7/215	21.2	7.	2	4.5	48.8	86.2	44.0
G	An	dre Joseph	6-3/185	12.6	4.	5	2.9	47.6	79.5	44.1

SCHEDULE

N19 Idaho St.	at Portland	D22 Winthrop	J8 Oregon St.	J22 Arizona St.	F10 Washington	F24 California
N22 New Mexico	D11 at Illinois	D28 Portland	J13 at Washington	J27 at California	F12 Washington St.	F26 Stanford
N27 at Marshall	D14 Bethune-Cookman	D31 USC	J15 at Washington St.	J29 at Stanford	F17 at Arizona	M3 at USC
D4 Vanderbilt	D18 at Fresno St.	J2 UCLA	J20 Arizona	F5 at Oregon St.	F19 at Arizona St.	M5 at UCLA

5. UCLA

WHAT WE LIKE: If you can handle controversy and pressure, being UCLA coach has its advantages. Ben Howland assembled one of the nation's top recruiting classes without stepping on an airplane. The new talent, combined with a core of veterans, makes UCLA a potential postseason team. But it's also a team that could develop cracks. Forward Trevor Ariza departed for the NBA, leaving Dijon Thompson as the only proven go-to threat. Gritty Brian Morrison is a solid 3-point shooter and a tough defender, while 6-5 freshman Arron Afflalo is billed as a big, strong shooter who will score from the wing and Jordan Farmar is a true point guard who could start immediately. Lorenzo Mata could help inside with rebounding and defense.

WHAT SCARES US: UCLA has six experienced seniors, but that experience has come during a bad stretch of basketball. Can they improve this team, or will fans have to wait until the freshmen mature? Two upperclassmen are coming off injuries. Center Ryan Hollins had arthroscopic knee surgery in July and should be healthy. Morrison played only 13 games last year because of hamstring and ankle injuries, but provided defense, toughness and 3-point shooting when healthy.

X-FACTOR: UCLA long has needed a transfusion. The question is whether the abrupt infusion of new blood will make them dizzy. Will the freshmen be ready? Will Farmar push Cedric Bozeman to shooting guard or the bench? Will Bozeman and other veterans respond when pushed by underclassmen? A cushy early schedule, and the fact the team doesn't leave California until December 21, should ease the transition pains.

BRUINS DATA

Coach: Ben Howland (11-17, 1 year; 179-116 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 4-3).

Assistant coaches: Donny Daniels (1 year), Kerry Keating (1), Ernie Zeigler (1). 2003-04 record: 11-17. Pac-10: 7-11/T7th.

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Los Angeles. Website: www.uclabruins.com

Home court: Pauley Pavilion (12,800).

ROSTER

	<u> </u>			_	-	_				
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G	Arron Affialo	6-5/200	Fr.	Pene	trator	who ca	an score	from lo	ng range
21	G	Cedric Bozeman*	6-6/199	Sr.	7.5	3.8	5.5	41.3	55.4	22.2
11	G	Jordan Farmar	6-2/180	Fr.	Elite	point o	guard av	veraged	6.5 apg l	ast year.
45	(Michael Fey	7-0/257	Jr.	6.0	2.4	0.3	56.1	74.1	0.0
55	G	Quinn Hawking	6-3/199	Jr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
15	C	Ryan Hollins*	7-0/225	Jr.	6.5	4.3	0.5	54.7	58.1	_
54	F	Josiah Johnson	6-8/257	Sr.	1.4	2.4	0.3	45.5	61.5	0.0
14	C	Lorenzo Mata	6-9/225	Fr.	Mons	ter on	the boa	ards (18	rpg last	season).
25	F	Matt McKinney	6-8/208	So.	Misse	ed 200	3-04 wi	th a foo	t injury.	
3	G	Brian Morrison	6-2/189	Sr.	8.5	2.2	1.6	42.9	80.0	42.9
5	G	DeAndre Robinson	6-5/185	Fr.	Walk	on sh	ooting	guard fro	om River	side, Calif
2	G	Janou Rubin	6-3/193	Sr.	4.4	1.6	1.3	46.0	52.4	40.5
12	F	Josh Shipp	6-5/200	Fr.					ged 30.4	
1	G/F	Dijon Thompson*	6-7/198	Sr.	14.4	4.3		43.5	78.2	38.3
10	G	Ryan Walcott	6-1/190	Sr.	1.1	0.8	0.8	27.0	63.6	5.90
22	G	Ike Williams	6-1/175	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Tre	vor Ariza*	6-8/200	11.6	6	.5	2.1	42.6	50.4	23.7
G	Jor	Crispin	6-0/195	2.0	1	.2	0.4	27.8	100.0	25.0
F	T.J.	.Cummings*	6-9/215	12.8	6	.7	1.2	55.2	86.3	35.0

N20 Chicago St.	D5 Boston College	D21 at Michigan St.	J8 Washington	J22 California	F10 Arizona St.	F23 USC
123 Western Illinois	at Anaheim	D31 at Oregon St.	J13 at Arizona St.	J29 at USC	F12 Arizona	F26 at Notre Dame
127 UC Irvine	D11 Pepperdine	J2 at Oregon	J15 at Arizona	F3 at Washington St.	F17 at Stanford	M3 Oregon St.
N30 Long Beach St.	D18 Michigan	J6 Washington St.	J20 Stanford	F5 at Washington	F19 at California	M5 Oregon

6. USC

WHAT WE LIKE: Look for USC's perimeter twins—Errick and Derrick Craven, and Lodrick and Rodrick Stewart—to keep the Trojans in an uptempo mode. Those four players have the speed and athleticism to create havoc defensively and excel offensively. Although 7-foot recruit Robert Swift opted for the NBA, USC will be imposing inside with consistent Jeff McMillan, former football player Gregg Guenther and versatile Rory O'Neil. Juco transfer Dwayne Shackleford could wrest point guard duties from Derrick Craven and Rodrick Stewart, giving the Trojans a scoring-minded quarterback who could command defensive attention. Talented freshmen Gabriel Pruitt and Nick Young also should help on the wing.

WHAT SCARES US: You never know what you're going to get from USC. Its ebbs and flows can depend on the venue and mood of hardnosed coach Henry Bibby. Some USC teams respond to Bibby, an outstanding game coach; others don't. Bibby must find a go-to scorer to replace Desmon Farmer on the wing, and one of the point guards must emerge. The Trojans also must shoot better from the line and become less dependent on their defense creating easy shots. If those things don't happen, they won't escape the second division.

X-FACTOR: Bibby, who once called Errick Craven the best freshman he'd ever coached, watched his athletic junior regress last season and even removed him from the starting lineup for six games. At worst, he's one of the league's better defenders. At best, however, he could fill a scoring void left by Farmer and push the Trojans into the postseason.

TROJANS DATA

Coach: Henry Bibby (129-109, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 3-3).

Assistant coaches: Eric Brown (3 years), Mike Johnson (1), Bob Cantu (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-15. Pac-10: 8-10/6th. Last regular-season title: 1985 (tie), Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Los Angeles. Website: www.usctrojans.com

Home court: Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena (16,161).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
24	G	Derrick Craven	6-2/215	Sr.	6.1	2.2	2.9	38.2	52.5	28.1	
22	G	Errick Craven*	6-2/205	Sr.	11.1	3.0	3.0	41.5	62.4	24.4	
2	F	Nick Curtis	6-8/225	Sr.	3.0	2.5	0.3	51.1	56.7	25.0	
4	F	Gregg Guenther	6-9/255	Sr.	5.6	4.7	0.7	43.6	73.1	50.0	
5	F	Jeff McMillan*	6-8/260	Sr.	11.1	8.6	1.5	63.0	66.7	_	
21	C	Rory O'Neil*	6-11/240	Sr.	8.3	3.8	0.7	45.2	68.4	36.0	
34	G	Gabriel Pruitt	6-4/170	Fr.	Averaged 22 ppg as a high school senior.						
15	G	Dwayne Shackleford	5-10/185	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer c	an play	point or	shootin	g guard	
3	G	Lodrick Stewart	6-4/210	So.	8.7	2.6	1.1	42.3	56.8	33.7	
23	G	Rodrick Stewart*	6-4/205	So.	4.4	2.2	2.1	34.4	65.9	10.0	
44	F	Emanuel Willis	6-8/220	Fr.	Solid rebounder adds frontcourt strength.						
1	G/F	Nick Young	6-6/195	Fr.	Could help as the team focuses on defense.						

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Desmon Farmer*	6-5/225	19.4	4.6	1.8	38.9	76.1	33.3	

SCHEDULE

N22 UC Irvine D8	Fresno St. D28	Southern Ja	8	Washington St.	J22	Stanford	F10	Arizona	F23	at UCLA
N28 at North Carolina D1	1 at San Diego D31	at Oregon J	13	at Arizona	J29	UCLA	F12	Arizona St.	МЗ	Oregon
	3 Western Michigan J2	at Oregon St. J	15	at Arizona St.	F3	at Washington	F17	at California	M5	Oregon St.
D4 BYU D2	1-24 Rainbow Classic J6	Washington J2	20	California	F5	at Washington St.	F19	at Stanford		

7. Oregon State

WHAT WE LIKE: If forward David Lucas, who rose from walk-on to all-league status in little over a year, continues his startling improvement, the Beavers could challenge for the upper division. Even if Lucas levels off, the Beavers should have enough to make a serious postseason bid. Last season, Oregon State played everybody tough but often ran out of fuel. Now, stamina should not be a problem. Not only is everybody back, the Beavers also get two significant transfer players eligible. Nick DeWitz, formerly of Iowa, has an inside-out game similar to Lucas; former New Mexico State guard Jason Fontenet is a crafty player who will see time at both guard slots. Joining steady point guard Lamar Hurd again on the perimeter are J.S. Nash and 3-point specialist Chris Stephens.

WHAT SCARES US: Lucas will be a marked man. Unless the Beavers can develop consistent scoring threats to keep opponents from doubling him, Lucas could have problems matching his 2003-04 numbers. One possible option is athletic freshman Marcel Jones; another is longrange specialist Angelo Tsagarakis, who was spotty as a freshman. Two players will miss the early schedule. DeWitz becomes eligible December 11; Jim Hanchett plays tight end for the football team.

X-FACTOR: The Beavers were unable to match their home energy level away from cozy Gill Coliseum last season. Now with better depth comes confidence. Coach Jay John ramped up the Beavers' traditionally weak nonconference schedule to include away games in Atlanta (Georgia), Raleigh (the BCA Invitational) and Las Vegas (UNLV). One or two early wins could set the stage for an interesting season.

BEAVERS DATA

Coach: Jay John (25-31, 2 years).

Assistant coaches: Kevin Mouton (2 years), Jeff Reinert (2), Brian Loyd (2).

2003-04 record: 12-16. Pac-10: 6-12/9th.

Last regular-season title: 1990. Last NCAA appearance: 1990.

Site: Corvallis, Ore. Website: www.osubeavers.com

Home court: Gill Coliseum (10,400).

ROSTER

*200	100	The second second second	201 0112	100				40000	1000	200	
Vo.		Name	Ht./Wt.	a.	PPG	RPG		FG%	FT%	3%	
11	F	Nick DeWitz	6-9/220	Jr.	Will b	e elig	ible at t	he end o	of fall ter	m.	
10	G	Jason Fontenet	5-10/169	Jr.	All-ar	round	player v	vith grea	t quickr	iess.	
12	F	Jim Hanchett	6-6/248	Sr.	7.3	5.5	1.1	48.9	44.4	40.0	
25	F	Kenny Hooks	6-7/225	So.	2.0	1.6	0.2	28.1	43.8	15.0	
00	C	Liam Hughes	7-2/293	Fr.	Redsl	hirted	in 2003	-04.			
1	G	Lamar Hurd*	6-5/190	Jr.	5.3	3.5	4.9	34.8	54.0	25.0	
35	C	Kyle Jeffers*	6-10/270	So.	5.1	4.8	0.6	37.2	63.6	_	
23	F	Michael Johnson	6-5/227	So.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	50.0	-	
3	F	Marcel Jones	6-8/200	Fr.	Athletic wing can score from				m anywhere.		
30	F	David Lucas*	6-8/246	Sr.	17.2	6.9	0.9	51.1	81.6	33.3	
22	G	J.S. Nash*	6-2/210	Sr.	10.5	3.6	3.8	41.5	81.1	36.1	
24	C	Derek Potter	6-11/247	Sr.	1.3	1.9	0.4	28.0	58.3	-	
5	G/F	Vic Remmers	6-5/215	Sr.	1.5	0.5	0.3	40.0	75.0	41.7	
13	G	Chris Stephens*	6-2/194	Jr.	15.8	2.6	1.4	41.7	82.2	37.8	
4	G	Angelo Tsagarakis	6-3/210	So.	6.4	1.2	0.8	34.1	66.7	31.5	
KE	Y LO	SSES									
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
0	Key	vin Field	6-11/265	1.3	1.	0	0.1	45.5	75.0	0.00	

-CI ILDULL						
N17-19 BCA Invitational	D11 Georgia	D21 at Prairie View	J8 at Oregon	J22 Arizona	F10 Washington St.	F24 Stanford
N26 at UNLV	at Atlanta	D28 Sacramento St.	J13 at Washington St.	J27 at Stanford	F12 Washington	F26 California
D1 Portland	D13 Bethune-Cookman	D31 UCLA	J15 at Washington	J29 at California	F17 at Arizona St.	M3 at UCLA
D4 Colorado	D18 at Boise St.	J2 USC	J20 Arizona St.	F5 Oregon	F19 at Arizona	M5 at USC

8. California

WHAT WE LIKE: The Bears will have the most experienced group of sophomores in the Pac-10. So if most of them make the usual big jump from first to second year, California should be competitive. Except for junior guard Richard Midgley, a solid defender and shooter, the Bears are all-sophomore on the perimeter. Ayinde Ubaka will inherit point guard duties from A.J. Diggs, and Marquise Kately will display his slashing style from the wing. Another athletic wing, Dominic McGuire, is a good enough rebounder and quick enough to the ball that he might be able to step in at power forward, filling some of the void created by center Leon Powe's knee surgery. Two newcomers should strengthen the wings: Kevin Langford and 3-point threat Eric Vierneisel.

WHAT SCARES US: Powe's left knee. The Bears could struggle early but contend for the upper division if he returns in time for conference play. But if Powe doesn't make it back from his early-September surgery, they could be in trouble. Powe had a two-part procedure that doctors said would require at least five months of recovery. Look for the Bears to try Rod Benson at center. If 260-pound David Paris gets in better shape, he and freshman DeVon Hardin may be thrown into the fire, too.

X-FACTOR: When Powe sat out at Arizona last season, Benson had 11 points, five rebounds and two blocks. Now, Cal needs that kind of production from him full time. Complicating the inside picture, the Bears also lost power forward Amit Tamir. An athletic shot blocker and rebounder, Benson received increased playing time as last season progressed. He will have to build on that quickly.

SCHEDULE

N11-19 Coaches vs. Canc	er D4 Fairleigh Dickinson	D31 at Washington	J15 Stanford	J29 Oregon St.	F17 USC	M3 Washington
N23 Southern	D7 Colorado	J2 at Washington St.	J20 at USC	F3 at Arizona	F19 UCLA	M5 Washington St.
N27 at BYU	D11 at San Diego St.	J6 Arizona	J22 at UCLA	F5 at Arizona St.	F24 at Oregon	
D1 UNLV	D22-23 Golden Bear Classic	J8 Arizona St.	J27 Oregon	F12 at Stanford	F26 at Oregon St.	

9. Washington State

WHAT WE LIKE: Dick Bennett is converting the Cougars into his kind of team. His first group allowed 59.7 points per game and averaged 12.1 turnovers, and this year's team will have seven new players. Only four remain from the Paul Graham run-and-gun era, one loss being guard Marcus Moore, a shot-happy point guard who was not a great fit for Bennett's system. The remaining veterans are buying into his patient cut-and-screen offense, especially slick-shooting guard Thomas Kelati. The spot-up specialist benefits from increased opportunities. Strong-bodied Jeff Varem gives the Cougars a much-needed inside presence as well as the ability to get to the line. Freshman point guard Derrick Low spent last winter in Pullman, which helped greatly.

WHAT SCARES US: The players are undersized. WSU has had problems matching up with bigger teams for years, and they probably will use 6-7 Shami Gill and 6-6 Varem inside. Only Chris Henry, at 6-8 and 248, has commanding size and he's a freshman. The Cougars also will need rebounding help from freshmen Robbie Cowgill and Daven Harmeling. The freshmen don't have much time to adjust; they must pick up the system quickly for the Cougars to succeed. Earning one of the eight Pac-10 tournament spots might have to be the goal for now.

X-FACTOR: The heat is on Low. While Kelati will provide the bulk of the leadership, he's not a point guard and Low will have to run the team immediately. Low is a reliable shooter with a pass-first mentality; he should run the system well. The question is how long he will need to adjust. The Cougars won't operate efficiently until he does.

GOLDEN BEARS DATA

Coach: Ben Braun (153-94, 8 years; 486-329 overall, 27 years; NCAA Tournament 7-7).

Assistant coaches: Louis Reynaud (6 years), Joe Pasternack (3), George Nessman (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-15. Pac-10: 9-9/T4th. Last regular-season title: 1960. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Berkeley, Calif. Website: www.calbears.com Home court: Walter A. Haas Pavilion (11,877).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
0	F/C	Rod Benson	6-10/210	Jr.	2.6	1.7	0.2	44.0	50.0	_
10	F	Jordi Geli	6-10/205	Jr.	0.0	0.5	0.0	_	_	-
35	F	DeVon Hardin	6-10/225	Fr.	Most	athlet	ic of the	new po	st playe	rs.
25	G/F	Marquise Kately*	6-5/220	So.	10.5	2.8	1.3	53.5	46.2	29.4
32	F	Kevin Langford	6-8/215	Fr.	Broth	er Kei	th Lang	ford play	s at Kan	sas.
3	F	Dominic McGuire	6-8/210	So.	4.3	3.4	0.8	38.7	42.1	13.6
15	G	Richard Midgley*	6-2/200	Jr.	10.6	2.6	2.1	41.9	75.0	35.1
55	F	David Paris	6-8/260	Jr.	1.5	0.8	0.0	33.3	55.0	-
44	C	Leon Powe*	6-8/245	So.	15.1	9.5	0.7	48.8	61.0	0.0
33	G	Alex Pribble	6-4/205	So.	0.0	0.3	0.3	-	_	-
50	C	Sam Rayburn	6-11/260	Fr.	Solid	passe	and ou	tside she	ooter.	
20	G	Martin Smith	5-11/175	Jr.	1.8	0.7	1.0	40.0	68.2	28.6
1	G	Ayinde Ubaka*	6-3/200	So.	6.4	2.1	3.9	34.1	69.8	25.9
14	F	Eric Vierneisel	6-7/200	Fr.	Great	long-	range sl	hooter a	veraged	18.7 ppg.
2	G	Omar Wilkes	6-4/175	So.	Kansa	as tran	sfer not	eligible	until 20	05-06.
KE	Y LC	SSES						-		
Pos.			Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	A.J. Diggs	5-10/175	2.0	2.0	2.0	33.3	66.7	25.0	
F/C	Amit Tamir*	6-10/260	12.6	5.3	1.6	43.8	82.6	35.5	

COUGARS DATA

Coach: Dick Bennett (13-16, 1 year; 294-193 overall, 17 years; NCAA Tournament 5-6).

Assistant coaches: Tony Bennett (1 year), Mike Heideman (1), Ben Johnson (1st)

2003-04 record: 13-16. Pac-10: 7-11/T7th. Last regular-season title: 1941. Last NCAA appearance: 1994.

Site: Pullman, Wash. Website: www.wsucougars.com

Home court: Friel Court (11,566).

ROSTER

*2003-04 starter; bd No. Pos. Name 1 G Josh Akd 34 C Robbie d 22 F Shami d 21 G Anthony	Ht ognon 5-	/Wt. 10/185	CI. Fr.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
1 G Josh Ako 34 C Robbie 9 22 F Shami (ognon 5-	10/185		-	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34 C Robbie C			Fr.	-			_	1000	274
22 F Shami	Cowgill 6-	and the same		Drive	and b	ulk mak	e up for	a lack of	height.
		9/190	Fr.	Has g	ood qu	uickness	and agi	lity.	
21 C Anthony	Gill* 6-	7/225	Sr.	5.9	5.3	0.7	44.2	82.5	16.7
21 G Anthony	Grant 6-	4/185	Jr.	2.1	1.1	0.5	25.0	54.5	25.5
12 G Randy G	ireen 6-	3/187	Jr.	4.9	1.3	0.4	35.3	82.1	33.3
32 F Daven H	larmeling 6-	6/207	Fr.	Cereb	ral pla	yer who	can sho	ot, dribb	le or pa
14 C Chris He	nry 6-	8/248	Fr.	Not at	fraid t	o play p	hysically	in the p	ost.
11 G Thomas	Kelati* 6-	5/184	Sr.	11.1	2.9	2.2	43.8	96.3	44.4
3 G Alex Kir	k 5-	10/170	Fr.	A crea	tive p	laymak	er who re	acks up a	assists.
2 G Derrick	Low 6-	1/177	Fr.	True 1	freshr	nan wil	I start a	t the po	int.
5 F Chris S	chlatter* 6-	6/216	Sr.	4.6	3.8	1.2	37.3	59.3	34.6
25 G Isaiah S	immons 6-	2/221	Sr.	2.1	1.3	0.8	28.2	46.2	40.0
45 G/F Jeff Va	rem* 6-	6/240	Sr.	9.6	4.2	1.9	45.6	76.9	30.4
24 G Kyle We	aver 6-	4/183	Fr.	Needs	to be	as agg	ressive a	s he is ta	lented.
KEY LOSSES									
Pos. Name	Ht.	/Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G Marcus Mod	ore* 6-6	5/208	13.5	3.	.1	3.7	37.2	79.3	25.5
C Ezenwa Uke	agu 6-7	7/253	5.4	3.	7	0.2	53.7	69.6	-

SCHEDIII E

		200	100	2 112	144		100	and the second			110	
N19 Montana State	D4 at Oklahoma State	D22 at Wyoming	J2	California	J13	Oregon State	J29	at Arizona	F 12	at Oregon	M3	at Stanford
N24 Georgia Southern	D7 Gonzaga	D31 Stanford		at Spokane	J15	Oregon	F3	UCLA	F19	Washington	M5	at California
N27 at Kansas State	D11 at BYU	at Spokane	J6	at UCLA	J22	at Washington	F5	USC	F24	Arizona State		
N30 at Idaho	D18 at Portland		J8	at USC	J27	at Arizona State	F10	at Oregon State	F26	Arizona		

D4 Cal State Northridge

Fairleigh Dickinson

10. Arizona State

WHAT WE LIKE: All five starters are back, including the conference's top big man, Ike Diogu. There's also a core of younger players who showed promise last season. Serge Angounou, limited by a knee injury, still was a capable inside player. Guard Kevin Kruger, the son of UNLV coach Lon Kruger, is a spot-up shooter with court awareness and leadership abilities. Diogu's game is limited only by the talent around him: He's a ferocious inside force, an excellent free throw shooter and decent short-range shooter. But he gets buried too often inside by defenses that double- and triple-team him. Angounou, Wilfried Fameni and Keith Wooden will need to make more of an impact inside for this to be, at best, a .500 team.

WHAT SCARES US: All five starters are back. This group won only four league games and the talent level is not significantly upgraded. Junior college guard Tyrone Jackson is the only newcomer expected to make an impact, so the returning youngsters must make big improvement. Diogu simply can't do it by himself. While Angounou showed signs of being productive, there are fears he never may be as explosive as he was before fracturing a knee cap in 2002. Other than Diogu and Kruger, there isn't anybody on the roster who is tough to guard.

X-FACTOR: JC transfers often need half a season to adjust to the Pac-10, but that's not an option for Jackson. The Sun Devils need him to either push Jason Braxton or replace him at point guard, while showing some shot-making ability at both guard spots. He also will need to defend the off-guard so the smaller Kruger can go on point.

D22 Santa Clara

D28-30 Fiesta Bowl Classic

SUN DEVILS DATA

Coach: Rob Evans (90-89, 6

Coach: Rob Evans (90-89, 6 years; 176-170 overall, 12 years; NCAA

Assistant coaches: Tony Benford (6 years), Dan O'Dowd (6), Brooks Thompson (1st).

2003-04 record: 10-17. Pac-10: 4-14/10th. Last regular-season title: 1975 (WAC).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.
Site: Tempe, Ariz. Website: www.thesundevils.com

Home court: Wells Fargo Arena (14,141).

DOSTED

200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
lo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
20	G	Robby Alridge	6-1/197	So.	A wa	lk-on	from Ka	ty, Texas.		
25	F	Jamie Andrisevic	6-9/221	Sr.	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	-	_
45	F	Serge Angounou	6-8/235	So.	3.8	2.6	1.1	41.4	85.7	25.0
32	F	Craig Austin	6-10/220	Fr.	Skille	d pos	t player	who nee	ds to ad	d bulk.
1	G	Jason Braxton*	6-2/190	Sr.	7.1	3.7	4.8	45.5	51.7	26.7
5	F/C	Ike Diogu*	6-8/250	Jr.	22.8	8.9	1.6	53.0	81.5	37.8
34	F	Wilfried Fameni*	6-7/231	So.	4.2	3.5	0.7	44.2	59.5	66.7
33	G	Tyrone Jackson	6-2/210	Jr.	Led I	resno	City C	ollege v	vith 23.9	ppg.
12	G	Bryson Krueger	6-7/200	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	will hel	p in the	backcour	t.
13	G	Kevin Kruger	6-2/186	So.	5.3	1.6	2.1	36.2	79.5	36.0
0	F	Allen Morill	6-7/233	Jr.	2.7	2.2	0.5	41.2	67.6	_
21	G	Stevie Moore*	6-4/190	Sr.	12.7	3.7	2.6	37.2	81.4	32.4
1	F	Tim Pierce	6-7/190	Fr.	Prolif	ic insi	de-out :	coring t	hreat.	
23	G	Tron Smith*	6-2/195	So.	3.9	1.5	1.3	31.6	56.5	16.0
2	C/F	Keith Wooden	6-8/220	So.	3.3	2.1	0.2	54.0	50.0	_
(E)	/ LC	SSES								
os.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Jus	tin Allen	6-8/250	2.0	2	.2	0.0	42.5	46.7	25.0
/F	Jan	nal Hill	6-5/180	9.4	2	.3	1.4	40.9	80.7	40.2

at USC

F26 at Washington St.

M5 Arizona

SCHEDULE			d/I	Jamai miii	0-3/100
N21-27 Las Vegas Classic	D12 UC Riverside	J2 at Arizona	J15 USC	J29 Washington	F12
N30 at Temple	D20 Northwestern	16 at Stanford	120 at Oregon St	F3 Stanford	F17

J8 at California

J13 UCLA

 J20
 at Oregon St.
 F3
 Stanford
 F17
 Oregon St.

 J22
 at Oregon
 F5
 California
 F19
 Oregon

 J27
 Washington St.
 F10
 at UCLA
 F24
 at Washington

TSNumber

2

TRENT JOHNSON'S NCAA

Tournament wins while coaching Nevada last season. Johnson takes over for Mike Montgomery at Stanford, which has won two tournament games in a season only once since 1998.

Conference USA

Conference in transition appears primed to run a compelling final lap

Think of all that has changed about Conference USA in its short history. Mike Slive no longer is commissioner. Denny Crum, Gene Bartow, M.K. Turk and Larry Finch no longer coach.

Many of the founding presidents have moved on, as well. And the league has gone from 11 members to 12 to 14. Soon, it will go from a back-of-the-pack major to a kind of limbo slightly above the mid-majors.

But as Conference USA enters what amounts to its final season—the conglomeration that takes the court in 2005-06 will have only the name—one thing remains unchanged. It gets no respect.

The league has been home to Danny Fortson, Lorenzen Wright, Kenyon Martin, Dwyane Wade and Quentin Richardson, but skeptics still complain about the quality of competition. And Francisco Garcia and Sean Banks, as gifted as they are, won't change that this season. Getting six teams into last year's NCAA Tournament didn't change it; watching Marquette advance to the 2003 Final Four didn't, either.

So what looms as another promising season isn't likely to change any minds, not that it would matter anyway. Next year Louisville, Marquette, Cincinnati, DePaul and South Florida will be part of the Big East; Charlotte and Saint Louis will be in the Atlantic 10. We'll try to picture Marshall, SMU, Central Florida, Rice, Tulsa and UTEP making an impact in C-USA while wondering how any team in the renovated league will be able to keep pace with a Memphis program that has a significantly larger budget and vastly greater following.

The last lap around C-USA figures to be

compelling. It is unlikely to produce another five-way tie for the title, and it'll be tough to equal last year's NCAA bonanza. But there are a half-dozen contenders, new coaches at Southern Mississippi (Larry Eustachy) and Houston (Tom Penders) and All-American-caliber players at Cincinnati (Jason Maxiell), Charlotte (Curtis Withers) and Marquette (Travis Diener) in addition to Garcia and Banks. Enjoy it while it lasts.

ASCENDING: Louisville. Early success led the Cardinals to top 10 rankings in each of the last two seasons, but they haven't sustained it. They've got more depth now to handle Rick Pitino's relentless attacking style and more muscle up front to keep from being overwhelmed. The Cards finished last year with a 9-7 league mark. They have room for improvement and the talent to get there.

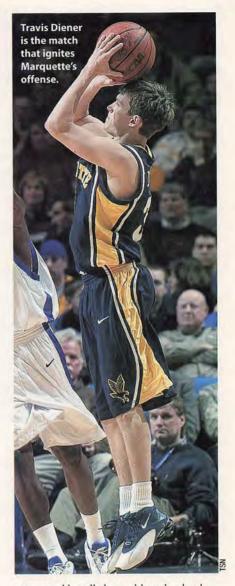
DESCENDING: Cincinnati. Coach Bob Huggins missed most of the summer under suspension, the team's two best perimeter shooters are gone and the one hope to provide muscle at center, Robert Whaley, fell into disfavor and left the program. Point guard is an issue, and the conference tournament won't be in Cincinnati. The Bearcats won't collapse entirely, but this will become only the second time in 10 tries they fail to win C-USA.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Curtis Withers, F. Charlotte, Yes, he was first-team all-conference last season. So Withers is not an unknown, but his performance with the U.S. team in the qualifying tournament for the Young Men's World Championship indicates his excellence is more than just a function of the opportunities he gets with the 49ers. Put elite players around him, and he becomes one of them. 2. Dameon Mason, G/F, Marquette. Mason still is learning to assert himself, but once he started getting regular minutes in January of his freshman season, he was consistently productive and occasionally spectacular. The one obstacle: playing confidently away from home. He averaged only 8.1 points in his final seven road games. 3. Sammy Mejia, G, DePaul. Some scouts wondered if Mejia would commit himself to controlling an offense. They found out during his freshman season, when he averaged 5.1 assists over the final 19 games. Mejia still needs to be stronger and more careful with the ball, but that's not uncommon for a bigger point guard. As he grows confident, he'll make greater use of his size.

BEST BETS:

 Huggins will be back to lead Cincinnati to a 14th straight NCAA Tournament. That



was a good bet all along, although school president Nancy Zimpher didn't figure it out until it was too late. She quietly tried to use Huggins' DUI citation to force a coaching change. Huggins is too valuable to the program and has too much support. 2. Charlotte will be this year's UAB. If there is a surprise team hanging around for the Sweet 16, it will be the 49ers. Center Martin Iti will be better equipped to make a difference in the middle, and Withers will emerge as a star. This team won't have to rely on hot-shooting days from 3-point range. 3. The final goodbyes for Louisville, Cincinnati and the others will not be pleasant. Oh, any one of them might win the conference tournament, but there are some hard feelings among Memphis fans about being left behind. If the Cards, Bearcats or Marquette wind up opposite the Tigers in the C-USA final, Memphis' FedEx Forum might have one of its most partisan crowds.

E-mail senior writer Mike DeCourcy at decourcy@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
DePaul	12	4	22	10
Memphis	12	4	22	8
Cincinnati	12	4	25	7
UAB	12	4	22	10
Charlotte	12	4	21	9
Louisville	9	7	20	10
Saint Louis	9	7	19	13
Marquette	8	8	19	12
TCU	7	9	12	17
Southern Miss	6	10	13	15
East Carolina	5	11	13	14
Tulane	4	12	11	17
Houston	3	13	9	18
South Florida	1	15	7	20

Ht. Wt. Class

6-7 205 Jr.

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- 1. Louisville: Juan Diego Palacios is a top 20 talent. At center, 6-10 Terrance Farley and 6-8 Brian Johnson will battle for playing time. Wing scorer Lorrenzo Wade has the tools to be another Reece Gaines.
- 2. Memphis: A deep class includes 6-9 JC forward Waki Williams and 6-10 transfer Simplice Njoya. McDonald's All-American Darius Washington adds backcourt firepower.
- 3. Southern Miss: New coach Larry Eustachy has a deep JC group. Dwayne Brown and Shakiem Mitchell will play; Rashaad Carruth, Michael Ford and Solomon Brown strengthen a deep backcourt.
- 4. Cincinnati: The strength of this class is in the backcourt. JC floor leader Jihad Muhammad will start immediately. Freshmen Vincent Banks and Roy Bright are future stars.
- 5. Marquette: Much-needed frontcourt help will come from JC standout Mike Kinsella and freshman Ousmane Barro. Freshman Ryan Amoroso also could figure in the big-man mix.
- 6. Charlotte: Forwards E.J. Drayton and Chris Nance will play; Leemire Goldwire will contribute at the point.
- 7. Houston: JCs Englebert Cherrington and Rodney Hannah will strengthen the frontcourt. JCs Chris Lawson and Brian Latham add much-needed guard depth.
- 8. DePaul: Freshman Cliff Clinkscales provides quality depth at the point, JC Jamal Nichols (6-8) will contribute in the frontcourt and transfer Karron Clarke (6-6) will be available in 2005.
- 9. East Carolina: Big men Charles Bronson and Mike Castro will push for starting jobs. Backcourt talents Tom Hammonds Jr. and Marvin Kilgore also will get their share of minutes.
- 10. South Florida: Look for athletic big man Solomon Jones to have a major impact this winter. Sweetshooting wings Marius Prekevicius and Montavious Waters will battle for time on the perimeter.
- 11. Tulane: Robinson Louisme is a raw, 6-8 rebounder who will start the break off the glass. Look for wing men Donnie Stith and David Gomez to see lots of minutes.
- 12. UAB: Physical 6-9 freshman Frank Holmes has the body and instincts to develop into a good one. Guards Paul Delaney and Marvett McDonald, a JC transfer, will make immediate impacts.
- 13. Texas Christian: Neiman Owens and Brent Hackett can contribute on the wing.
- 14. Saint Louis: The Billikens, looking to keep pace in the strong C-USA, signed two players who may start: wide-bodied JC rebounder Vas'shun Newborne and freshman point guard Dwayne Polk.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Charlotte	30	45.0	64.9	34.0	40.7	16.1	8.8	3.0	15.3	79.1
Cincinnati	32	45.8	66.9	38.7	37.4	16.2	7.5	5.3	12.3	76.7
UAB	32	44.0	66.6	33.0	35.0	17.6	11.6	3.6	13.5	75.4
Louisville	30	41.9	74.9	33.8	37.5	15.3	8.3	5.0	13.8	73.2
Memphis	30	42.0	65.7	35.9	38.0	14.2	7.3	5.0	12.8	72.4
Marquette	31	42.8	74.7	40.2	35.8	12.8	5.7	2.5	14.5	71.2
East Carolina	27	43.7	65.4	33.3	39.7	12.0	6.8	4.6	15.0	70.6
DePaul	32	46.3	69.7	36.2	36.2	13.7	5.5	2.3	13.2	70.5
TCU	29	41.4	67.6	33.3	34.9	12.6	6.1	2.4	14.8	66.9
Tulane	28	40.9	64.4	32.4	39.6	14.3	6.2	4.3	16.6	65.4
Southern Miss	28	42.2	66.6	31.8	36.3	12.3	7.0	2.6	14.8	64.9
Saint Louis	32	42.8	70.3	34.2	31.1	13.3	7.1	1.5	12.6	62.7
South Florida	27	42.9	65.4	31.9	34.1	13.0	5.3	5.3	15.3	61.3
Houston	27	39.2	63.3	30.2	34.9	10.0	6.0	5.6	14.0	59.0

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Saint Louis	32	41.4	70.0	32.8	33.7	11.2	5.6	3.9	14.2	59.9
Louisville	30	38.2	63.6	31.9	37.3	11.7	6.1	3.3	17.3	61.5
Cincinnati	32	39.4	71.0	33.1	33.3	11.0	5.7	2.0	16.3	64.2
Houston	27	40.0	68.7	31.6	38.3	13.5	7.3	4.1	13.8	64.6
Memphis	30	40.5	69.9	35.8	34.6	13.3	6.3	2.7	15.0	65.3
East Carolina	27	39.4	69.2	33.9	34.6	12.7	6.0	2.5	14.4	66.1
DePaul	32	41.9	69.1	34.9	31.9	14.2	6.2	2.8	12.1	67.8
Southern Miss	28	45.3	66.5	33.3	33.4	12.4	7.4	3.9	12.9	68.3
South Florida	27	42.1	69.3	34.9	35.9	13.5	7.6	3.4	11.8	68.5
Marquette	31	44.0	64.6	35.0	31.8	14.4	7.0	3.1	14.0	68.5
UAB	32	43.1	67.9	31.6	40.0	12.4	6.5	3.2	20.2	69.3
Tulane	28	40.4	64.6	34.4	39.0	14.0	9.1	3.9	13.0	69.5
TCU	29	43.7	70.5	35.9	36.5	14.2	7.2	4.0	14.2	70.5
Charlotte	30	41.7	72.4	32.4	36.1	13.8	6.7	2.1	15.7	71.6

PREDICTIONS

FIRST TEAM

Pos. Name, school

1. Louisville*	9. Southern Miss
2. Memphis*	10. Saint Louis
3. Cincinnati*	11.Tulane
4. Charlotte*	12. East Carolina
5. Marquette*	13. Houston
6. DePaul*	14. South Florida
7. UAB	*NCAA tourney pick
8.TCU	

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

G/F	Francisco Garcia, Louisville	6-7	190	Jr.
G	Travis Diener, Marquette	6-1	170	Sr.
F	Sean Banks, Memphis	6-8	206	So.
F	Jason Maxiell, Cincinnati	6-7	250	Sr.
F	Curtis Withers, Charlotte	6-8	230	Jr.
SE	COND TEAM			
Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Reggie Bryant, Saint Louis	6-2	205	Sr.
G	Corey Santee, TCU	6-2	188	Sr.
G	Sammy Mejia, DePaul	6-6	195	So.
C	Darius Wachington Momphis			

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Rodney Carney, Memphis

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Francisco Garcia, G/F, Louisville

He was best when the team needed him most. Trying to rally back from a deficit at Kentucky, he nailed a game-breaking 3pointer. Foundering at Tennessee, he led the offense and rescued a victory. Under duress in two games at Cincinnati, Garcia averaged 27.5 points and wrecked a procession of defenders. The trick now: playing that way consistently. It's not about being selfish, but accepting responsibility.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Darius Washington, G, Memphis

Washington has all the physical traits of a great college point guard: speed, quickness, ballhandling skill, a sweet perimeter shot. His teams generally have been winners and have played above their talent level. If the Tigers are going to give him the ball, though, he'll have to prove he can share it. This team has several scorers.

MOST UNDERRATED

Corey Santee, G, TCU

Few get noticed on the wrong side of .500 in Conference USA. But Santee has been a consistent offensive force for three

seasons, topping the 1,000point and 400-assist career marks. His scoring average declined in his junior season, but TCU rallied to a 7-9 league finish after winning just three conference games in 2002-03. Isn't that what being a point guard is about?

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Drake Diener, DePaul Best playmaker: Travis Diener, Marquette Best NBA prospect: Francisco Garcia, Louisville

Best defender: Eddie Basden, Charlotte Most versatile: Sean Banks, Memphis

WHAT WE LIKE: Francisco Garcia is a player who could carry his team to the Final Four, and there are only a handful of such talents in Division I this season. He plays great under big-game pressure, can shoot from long distance and is an excellent free throw shooter. He breaks down defenders with his ballhandling skill and can either finish in traffic or drop a pass to a teammate. He never will be a bodybuilder, but another year of strength training should make him even more dangerous this season. So will the additional help he will get

SCHEDULE

N22-24 Maui Invitationa D4 Lafayette D11 at Florida D14 North Carolina A&T D18 Kentucky D21-22 Billy Minardi Classic D27 Morehead St. **Fastern Kentucky** Tennessee St. 12 15 at Houston 18 TCU J11 at Southern Miss. at Cincinnati 115 J19 East Carolina J22 Tennessee J26 Marquette 129 at Tulane F2 Cincinnati

San Francisco

F17 at Marquette

at DePau

F20 Saint Louis

F5 at UAB

F9 Memphis F12

F26 at Memphis

M3 Charlotte

from a reconstructed front line. For too long, this team's frontcourt has looked like poster material for the Atkins diet. The Cardinals did not rebound well enough to construct an effective running game, and they were too easy to push around under the basket. Well, one Juan Diego "Tello" Palacios equals two Kendall Dartezes. Palacios and fellow freshman Brian Johnson should instantly make Louisville a deeper and more powerful team along the baseline. Even more important is the return of Ellis Myles, who sat out last year as a medical redshirt. He was enjoying a terrific junior season (7.8 points per game, 7.9 rebounds) when he ruptured a tendon in his knee. Myles is not a great scoring threat, but he's capable of pushing double-figure rebounds. Garcia's shooting percentages aren't always what you'd want them to be, but his numbers figure to increase when defenses are forced to play him honestly. Cincinnati played Garcia pretty much straight up last year and he averaged 24.7 points in those three games.

WHAT SCARES US: This team's pursuit of excellence is as fragile as Taquan Dean's abdominal wall. When he was healthy last year, the Cardinals were a top 10 team. Dean tried to play through the pain

after he was injured in January, but he wasn't effective-and neither was Louisville. The Cards finished the year 6-9. That's how important he is. Dean is not a prototypical point guard. He creates few opportunities and accumulates few assists. But he can keep control of the team and threaten opponents with his perimeter shooting while allowing Garcia to do the playmaking. Plus, Dean is an outstanding defender, whether it's attacking the ball or shutting down a top scorer by fighting through screens. Dean tried to get better with three months' rest, but when that didn't do the trick he had surgery in June. The inexperience of the frontcourt also is a concern. It's not unusual for freshmen to take time adjusting to Rick Pitino's approach. Even though veteran Otis George also is available to join Myles up front, the Cardinals will need a significant contribution from either Palacios or Johnson. Or both. One thing Louisville has to confront is whether the program's commitment to fullcourt play is leading to nagging injury problems that have developed after midseason—or whether the players might simply be wearing out. Over the last two years, Louisville is 9-11 after February 15. It might just be a coincidence, but it also might be necessary to consider backing off the pedal a bit.

X-FACTOR: If Brandon Jenkins made sufficient offseason progress, Pitino might be free to return Dean to his natural shooting guard position. If Dean is not himself, there will be more pressure on Jenkins to develop quickly. Jenkins is a big point guard who can use his strength to muscle past defenders. He has a nice perimeter shot and a calm demeanor when he's running a team. But he seemed out of sorts for much of his freshman year. He never hit double figures in scoring and shot poorly from the field. But he committed only four turnovers in his final 11 games, and he was getting significant minutes during that stretch. The Louisville coaches insist they like him and say he provided enough insurance for them to gamble on landing game-breaking playmaker Sebastian Telfair. When Telfair chose to go to the NBA, Jenkins' importance increased dramatically. -M.D.



A C-USA COACH SAYS:

They've got size on the front line with the return of Ellis Myles and the emergence of Otis George, plus Brian Johnson and Juan Palacios coming in. The freshmen don't know what they're in for playing for Pitino. But they've got legitimate size. The frontcourt is what separates them. They're not completely convinced Taquan Dean is the point guard they need him to be, or they wouldn't have gone so hard after other point guards. But they've got the best player in the league in Francisco Garcia, and there are other pieces in place.

CARDINALS DATA

Alhaji Mohammed

Luke Whitehead*

Coach: Rick Pitino (64-30, 3 years; 416-154 overall, 18 years; NCAA Tournament 27-9; won NCAA title with Kentucky in 1996).

Assistant coaches: Vince Taylor (6 years), Kevin Willard (3), Reggie Theus (1). 2003-04 record: 20-10. C-USA: 9-7/T6th. Lost to Xavier in NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 1994 (Metro). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002. Site: Louisville. Website: www.uoflsports.com Home court: Freedom Hall (18,865).

		tarter; bold names: pr	CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON NAMED IN			-			122	-
0.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
21	G	Chris Current	6-4/185	So.	0.4	0.5	0.0	12.5	-	16.7
5	G	Taquan Dean*	6-3/185	Jr.	10.8	3.6	1.9	39.6	84.4	40.1
13	C	Terrance Farley	6-10/215	Fr.	Block	ed 133	shots	as a high	schools	enior.
32	G/F	Francisco Garcia*	6-7/190	Jr.	16.4	4.5	4.7	43.2	79.7	32.5
52	F/C	Otis George	6-8/225	Sr.	5.6	4.8	0.8	48.8	62.9	14.3
12	G	Brad Gianiny	6-1/170	So.	0.9	1.0	0.6	27.3	100.0	20.0
11	G	Brandon Jenkins	6-3/180	So.	3.0	1.6	1.1	42.3	60.0	31.6
14	F/C	Brian Johnson	6-8/230	Fr.	Playe	d for t	op-rank	ed Oak	Hill Acad	emy.
15	G/F	Perrin Johnson	6-4/215	So.	0.2	0.6	0.3	14.3	33.3	0.0
2	F	Ellis Myles	6-7/240	Sr.	Medi	cal re	dshirt i	n 2003-	04 (kne	e).
34	G/F	Larry O'Bannon*	6-4/200	Sr.	10.3	2.7	1.7	38.3	86.0	31.2
4	F	Juan Diego Palacios	s 6-8/245	Fr.	Shou	ld ma	ke big	impact	as a fre	shman
0	F	Joshua Tinch	6-4/215	Sr.	1.8	0.2	0.1	54.5	66.7	50.0
1	G	Lorrenzo Wade	6-5/190	Fr.	A sha	rpsho	oter wh	o could	fit into ro	tation.
/F\	,,,	CCCC								
os.		OSSES me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF		APG	FG%	FT%	3%

6-3/200

6-6/220

4.6

11.1

2.0

7.7

12 45.9

45.2

65.0

71.6

23.1

31.6

Nemphis

WHAT WE LIKE: Memphis returns four starters from a team that finished tied for the Conference USA regular-season title and advanced to the second-round of the NCAA Tournament. The one guy missing is point guard Antonio Burks, the heart of the Tigers for the past two seasons who now plays for the Memphis Grizzlies of the NBA. But Darius Washington, who will take over the point, is a McDonald's All-American who should have an immediate impact. Washington is an explosive player who can score at will in a similar

SCHEDULE

N11-19 Coaches vs. Cancer N23 Arkansas St N26 Maryland

. at Springfield, Mass.

at Purdue Pittsburgh D7

. at New York D11 Mississippi

D18 Austin Peav D20 Louisiana Tech

D23 Providence D30 East Tennessee St at Texas

19 Southern Miss 113

Marquette J15 TCII

J19 Southern Florida J22 at UAB

J27 DePaul 129 at TCU

F2 East Carolina F5 at Houston

F9 at Louisville F12 Tulane

F19 at Southern Miss

F23 at Charlotte Louisville

M2 at Saint Louis

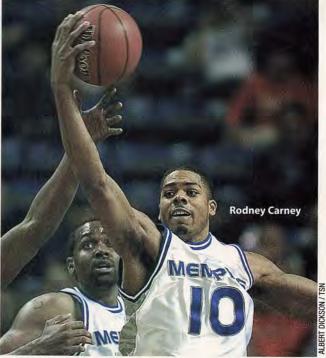
M5 Cincinnati

fashion to Dajuan Wagner in his first season with the Tigers. Thus, the overall outlook is good-meaning coach John Calipari's fifth season at Memphis is likely to be his best yet. Sean Banks, who returns on the wing, averaged 17.4 points and 6.5 rebounds per game and has the quiet confidence to be a serious All-American candidate. Banks can score inside and out, and the Tigers got a gift when he decided not to bolt to the NBA after his freshman season. Banks will be the go-to guy on a roster that is loaded with talented wings, from veteran high-flyer Rodney Carney and off-court leader Anthony Rice to injuryplagued Jeremy Hunt and junior college transfer Waki Williams. Each in that group is capable of pacing the effort any night, helping lead the team to what should be a memorable season. Calipari has preached progress since his arrival, each season noting improvement in wins and accomplishments. Rest assured, he's doing it again now-and for good reason, considering the Tigers' star talent and depth.

WHAT SCARES US: The team's glaring weakness last season was a lack of physical presence inside. Memphis, for the most part, relied on undersized, underskilled and undermotivated post players to do the work in the paint. They failed miserably more often than not, and thus Calipari's revolving door of potential interior scoring and rebounding never really stopped—nor did the yelling and frantic pleas for effort that seemed to fall on deaf ears.

Consequently, the Tigers were exposed in March by more physical teams, such as Cincinnati and Oklahoma State, and depended almost exclusively on transition buckets and outside jumpers. Will this improve this season? Calipari hopes so, especially considering the team lost one of its top 3-point threats in Burks. But unless senior Duane Erwin shows a newfound relentlessness, senior Arthur Barclay gets a new knee or redshirt freshman Almamy Thiero shakes two years of rust from various injuries, it's hard to imagine better results from any of the veterans. That's why the coaches are crossing their fingers and praying that freshman big man Richard Dorsey will have a huge impact, something similar to what Chris Taft did at Pittsburgh last season. A 6-8 prep school standout, Dorsey looks like a heavyweight fighter and seems to possess the tenacious attitude Calipari loves. In summer pickup games at the Finch Center on campus, Dorsey showed a nasty streak—and the willingness to get misses and dunk everything in sight. If that level of play translates to major college basketball, the Tigers' interior problems may be solved. If not, get ready to watch another record-setting season in terms of 3-pointers attempted.

X-FACTORS: Outside of post play, the biggest question surrounding Memphis is whether Washington can adjust from being a prolific scorer in high school to become a true point guard in college. Surrounded by the likes of Banks and Carney, Washington doesn't have to get 20 points per game for the Tigers to succeed. Instead, he has to master the skill of getting others involved and making his teammates better, which was always the knock on him throughout his AAU days. If Washington learns quickly, this team could make a deep run in the NCAA Tournament. If not, everything could become a struggle, not unlike a few seasons ago when Memphis had to settle for an NIT championship despite a loaded roster. —G.P.



A C-USA COACH SAYS:

Antonio Burks being gone will hurt, and Ivan Lopez leaving will take away some of their size. You lose that, and you start thinking where does their interior depth come from? But John Calipari did a good job last year of maximizing his players' strengths. They're dependent on a new point guard, and I'm not sure Darius Washington is a point guard-mentality kid. He's an aggressive scorer. They've got Anthony Rice, Rodney Carney and Sean Banks on the wings, and even though Burks scored, he was good at setting up the others.

TIGERS DATA

Coach: John Calipari (93-39, 4 years; 286-110 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 12-7)

Assistant coaches: Tony Barbee (4 years), Derek Kellogg (4), Ed Schilling (1). 2003-04 record: 22-8. C-USA: 12-4/T1st. Lost to Oklahoma State in NCAA East Rutherford Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie) Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002. Site: Memphis. Website: www.gotigersgo.com Home court: FedEx Forum (18,400).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr	THE RESIDENCE IN COLUMN TWO	TO SHOW	Million Market	-		m.max.	man 2	
No.		Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G	Maurice Avery	6-1/190	Jr.	1.0	0.3	0.0	50.0	20.0	-
32	F	Sean Banks*	6-8/206	So.	17.4	6.5	1.1	43.4	72.5	38.0
55	F	Arthur Barclay	6-8/236	Sr.	2.0	3.0	0.1	48.3	51.9	_
2	G	Tank Beavers	6-2/180	Fr.	Wash	nis high	school	's all-tim	ne assist	s leader.
10	F	Rodney Carney*	6-7/205	Jr.	13.0	5.7	1.1	38.8	68.5	37.1
15	F	Richard Dorsey	6-8/250	Fr.	Tough	post	player a	veraged	10.2 rpc	last year
11	F	Duane Erwin	6-9/238	Sr.	4.5	6.3	0.7	52.1	67.9	_
5	G	Jeremy Hunt*	6-4/206	Jr.	9.6	5.3	2.9	33.3	64.1	26.6
14	F	Simplice Njoya	6-10/230	Jr.	Duque	esne tr	ansfer s	at out la	st seaso	n.
23	G	Anthony Rice*	6-4/205	Sr.	9.0	3.5	3.0	35.9	64.2	33.1
3	F	Almamy Thiero	6-10/250	Fr.	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	33.3	_
0	G	Clyde Wade	6-0/180	So.	Did no	ot play	in any	games la	st seaso	n.
35	G	Darius Washington	6-1/185	Fr.	All-A	merica	n aver	aged 32	ppg as	a senior
21	F	Waki Williams	6-9/225	Jr.	JC rec	ruit sh	ot 50.6	percent	on FGs la	ast year.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Antonio Burks*	6-0/195	16.0	3.2	5.5	47.4	63.2	41.3	
C	Modibo Diarra	6-11/240	1.2	1.8	0.1	56.3	38.5	_	
F	Ivan Lopez	6-8/236	3.7	2.9	0.4	50.0	63.6	_	
G	Billy Richmond	6-5/207	5.0	1.8	1.8	33.3	69.2	20.0	

3. Cincinnati

WHAT WE LIKE: The reviews for Jihad Muhammad are overwhelmingly positive, so the Bearcats at last could get speed and flow from their point guard. Last year, shooting guard Nick Williams did not work out at the point, so small forwards James White and Armein Kirkland had to initiate the offense. That worked OK, but not well enough to prevent a second-round NCAA loss. The coaches believe Jason Maxiell is prepared to advance toward greatness even though defenses will continue to gang up on him. His frontcourt partner most often will be Eric Hicks, who is undersized and not much of a scoring threat. But Hicks is extremely athletic and demonstrated greater commitment than during previous offseasons.

WHAT SCARES US: This program has, historically, struggled to find a consistent offensive direction. The most obvious course with players like White, Kirkland and Roy Bright would be to go uptempo, but coach Bob Huggins prefers a sense of control to each possession. He is a great defensive teacher, and there is enough raw material here to hold opponents below 38 percent shooting. But unless Muhammad's creative skills make a huge difference, scoring will be a labor.

X-FACTOR: Huggins' DUI citation and subsequent suspension gave him time to think about the next stretch of his career. He has been stubborn about using different ways to attack the game. His approach produced eight league championships in nine tries. It also led to falling short of the Sweet 16 the same number of times. Huggins needs to change, in more ways than one. -M.D.

D20 Jackson St.

D27 Miami (Ohio)

DePaul

D22 La Salle

at Saint Louis

J12 at East Carolina

Charlotte

115 Louisville

SCHEDULE

N24 Las Vegas Classic

at Indianapolis

N19 Valparaiso

N27 Purdue

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at Dayton

Vanderbilt D9

D11 Detroit Mercy

D18 Las Vegas Classic

WHAT WE LIKE: Curtis Withers' summer experience with the U.S. young men's national team could help him become a dominant player. He is among the toughest, most physical players in the nation and can hit medium-range jumpers and the occasional 3-pointer. He needs a more aggressive offensive personality-and more chances in an offense that was too 3-point-happy. Withers scored in double figures in all but two games, but he got more than a dozen shots only seven times. That might be corrected with trigger-happy Demon Brown gone and Mitchell Baldwin his likely successor at the point. Baldwin sets up teammates and is an efficient shooter. Brendan Plavich has extraordinary range and can be a dangerous 3-point shooter, but he occasionally had too much freedom. Martin Iti has extraordinary reach.

WHAT SCARES US: With Withers and Iti on the blocks, it's time for this team to turn its attention inside. Withers led the 49ers in shots last year-but he took only 10 more than Brown and 24 more than Plavich, even though neither of the guards shot 38 percent. Breaking such habits is not easy, but it is essential if the 49ers want to stay in the NCAA Tournament longer than the first weekend.

X-FACTOR: Charlotte succeeded in keeping Iti after he briefly entered the NBA draft then considered skipping out to a junior college for the sake of getting more touches. Now Bobby Lutz must keep Iti's attention on winning games, not winning over scouts. Iti is convinced he is equipped to follow the sprinter's route to the NBA, but his skills are better suited to getting there in the long run. —M.D.

BEARCATS DATA

Coach: Bob Huggins (374-119, 15 years; 542-191 overall, 23 years; NCAA Tournament 19-14).

Assistant coaches: Keith LeGree (4 years), Andy Kennedy (3).

2003-04 record: 25-7. C-USA: 12-4/T1st. Lost to Illinois in NCAA Atlanta Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1991.

Site: Cincinnati. Website: www.ucbearcats.com

Home court: Fifth Third Arena at Shoemaker Center (13,176).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr	ALCOHOLD DESCRIPTION			DDC	100	FEN	PTO/	20/
No.	2000	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
24	G	Vincent Banks	6-3/190	Fr.				from the		
45	G/F	Roy Bright	6-6/225	Fr.	Ranke	ed as a	top 50	recruit i	n his clas	is.
14	F	Eric Hicks	6-7/240	Jr.	7.0	5.8	0.4	59.0	52.9	-
33	G/F	Armein Kirkland*	6-8/190	Jr.	6.0	2.6	2.3	40.7	72.4	36.5
10	G	Jamaal Lucas	6-1/195	Sr.	0.4	0.5	0.7	33.3	25.0	50.0
54	F	Jason Maxiell*	6-7/250	Sr.	13.6	6.9	1.3	50.0	68.1	0.0
3	G	John Meeker	6-1/170	Sr.	0.5	0.7	0.4	36.4	0.0	0.0
1	G	Chadd Moore	6-2/180	Jr.	3.2	0.9	2.0	50.8	64.0	33.3
13	G	Jihad Muhammad	5-11/180	Jr.	Will	nake	immed	iate imp	act at the	ne point
34	F	Mike Pilgrim	6-7/235	So.	Sat o	ut last	season	for acad	emic rea	sons.
30	C	Asrangue Souleyman	e 6-8/190	Fr.	Redsl	nirt br	ings sor	ne size to	the mi	ddle.
21	F	James White*	6-7/190	Jr.	7.9	4.0	3.6	38.4	80.3	23.8
5	G	Nick Williams	6-4/185	Sr.	6.7	2.5	2.1	40.7	72.4	36.5
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tor	ny Bobbitt	6-4/185	13.4	3	.4	1.9	45.5	84.3	40.1
C	Kai	reem Johnson*	6-7/250	5.6	5	.4	0.6	56.6	58.0	_

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Tony Bobbitt	6-4/185	13.4	3.4	1.9	45.5	84.3	40.1
C	Kareem Johnson*	6-7/250	5.6	5.4	0.6	56.6	58.0	_
C	Robert Whaley	6-10/260	5.8	2.5	0.6	34.8	66.0	0.0
G	Field Williams*	6-3/190	11.9	2.4	2.2	43.5	83.3	43.7

F19 UAB J22 Wake Forest F5 at Charlotte J27 at South Florida F10 Xavier F24 Marguette F12 at DePaul F26 at TCU 129 Houston F16 Southern Miss M2 Tulane

49ERS DATA

at Louisville

Coach: Bobby Lutz (114-75, 6 years; 295-164 overall, 15 years; NCAA Tournament 2-4).

Assistant coaches: Rob Moxley (6 years), Benny Moss (4), Dalonte Hill (1st). 2003-04 record: 21-9. C-USA: 12-4/T1st. Lost to Texas Tech in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2003 (tie).

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002.

Site: Charlotte, N.C. Website: www.charlotte49ers.com

Home court: Dale F. Halton Arena (9,105).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
20	G	Mitchell Baldwin	6-2/180	Jr.	5.7	2.1	1.9	46.9	59.5	25.0
13	G/F	Eddie Basden*	6-5/215	Sr.	10.4	6.4	3.1	53.6	64.4	38.1
11	G	Marcus Bennett	6-3/185	Sr.	Oklah	oma	transfer	must sit	out 200	4-05.
15	F	E.J. Drayton	6-8/215	Jr.	JC All	-Ame	rican in	2003-04		
12	G	Leemire Goldwire	6-1/180	Fr.	Rated	as th	e top po	oint guar	d in Flor	ida.
50	G	Travis Gordon	6-4/185	Fr.	0.7	0.5	0.2	28.6	-	0.0
2	C	Martin Iti*	7-0/240	So.	6.0	4.7	0.7	56.9	54.2	0.0
10	G	Jerrell Lewis	6-2/195	Fr.	Prep:	schoo	I star ca	n score i	n bunche	es.
00	C/F	Chris Nance	6-8/250	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	average	d 14 pp	g, 7 rpg l	ast year
1	F	C.J. Pigford	6-7/230	Sr.	3.5	2.4	0.3	43.0	57.4	27.3
5	G	Brendan Plavich*	6-2/207	Sr.	12.2	1.6	1.8	36.7	77.6	36.5
21	G	Chris Sager	6-4/195	Sr.	2.5	0.2	0.3	48.9	66.7	41.9
3	F	Curtis Withers*	6-8/230	Jr.	16.3	9.5	1.8	48.3	68.7	34.4
KE	YLC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	De	mon Brown*	6-1/195	12.4	3	.0	4.0	37.6	70.7	31.8
F	Cal	lvin Clemmons	6-8/250	5.4	4	.4	0.6	39.0	71.4	-
F	Bu	tter Johnson	6-8/210	6.6	3	.9	2.0	53.2	53.2	27.6

SCHEDULE

N19 Long Beach St.	D4 Alabama	D22 at Indiana	J15 Saint Louis	J29 at East Carolina	F16 DePaul	M3 at Louisville
N22 Rutgers	D8 at Davidson	D28-29 Cable Car Classic	J19 at Cincinnati	F5 Cincinnati	F19 at Tulane	M5 South Florida
N27 at Valparaiso	D11 Georgia St.	J8 East Carolina	J22 at Marquette	F9 Houston	F23 Memphis	
D1 Louisiana-Lafayette	D19 UNC Asheville	J12 at UAB	J26 TCU	F12 at Saint Louis	F26 Southern Miss	

M5 at Memphis

5. Marquette

WHAT WE LIKE: Travis Diener is as dynamic an offensive force as anyone in college basketball. He consistently presides over winning teams, makes big shots and is terrific playing off the pick-and-roll. Having a great shooter at the point makes Marquette's offensive schemes more dangerous. This should be a physically tougher team. A healthy Marcus Jackson can provide some muscle inside. As a junior, Steve Novak should be able to physically handle minutes at power forward, which would let Marquette stretch defenses. The growth of backup point Brandon Bell also might allow Marquette to use Diener off the ball, where he can concentrate on scoring. Also, the team's chemistry should be better, with the right players taking starring roles.

WHAT SCARES US: Marquette must improve defensively, and it starts with the pressure Diener exerts against the ball. Also, as dominant as he is on offense, Diener must start the attack more quickly. He too frequently bounced the Golden Eagles deep into the shot clock. Though big Scott Merritt was a disappointment as a senior, there's no obvious candidate to provide the inside points he delivered. That means becoming even more reliant on perimeter offense.

X-FACTOR: By the end of his freshman year, Dameon Mason was a serious scoring threat, though his game still was a bit loose. Marquette is trying to get him to see himself as a player who, with his penetration ability, can create opportunities for others as well as himself. If his ballhandling and passing improve enough for that to happen, expect him to score in the mid-teens. —*M.D.*

GOLDEN EAGLES DATA

Coach: Tom Crean (102-53, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 4-2).

Assistant coaches: Jeff Strohm (2 years), Bo Ellis (1), Jason Rabedeaux (1st). 2003-04 record: 19-12. C-USA: 8-8/8th. Lost to Iowa State in NIT quarterfinal. Last regular-season title: 2003 (American Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Milwaukee. Website: www.gomarquette.com

Home court: Bradley Center (19,330).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	4-05 st	tarter						
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
22	F	Ryan Amoroso	6-8/240	Fr.	Score	r with	great s	hooting	range ar	nd size.	
0	F	Ousmane Barro	6-10/230	Fr.	The S	enega	al native	has hug	e potent	tial.	
21	G	Brandon Bell	5-11/180	So.	1.5	0.2	0.4	28.0	77.8	33.3	
32	G	Joe Chapman	6-4/210	Jr.	4.7	1.7	0.6	42.4	71.8	30.5	
34	G	Travis Diener*	6-1/170	Sr.	18.8	3.1	6.0	42.2	88.3	45.0	
5	F	Dan Fitzgerald	6-9/205	So.	Tulan	e tran	sfer mu	st sit out	next sea	ason.	
23	G	Tony Gries	5-10/170	Jr.	0.3	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	_	
33	F/C	Chris Grimm	6-10/235	Jr.	1.0	1.5	0.0	44.4	60.0	_	
35	F	Marcus Jackson	6-8/240	Sr.	1.7	2.5	0.1	46.7	45.8	_	
40	(Mike Kinsella	7-0/245	So.	Could	help	in the p	ost right	away.		
30	G/F	Dameon Mason*	6-5/190	So.	9.0	4.5	1.1	44.0	71.0	52.4	
20	F	Steve Novak*	6-10/218	Jr.	12.5	4.6	1.3	40.7	91.2	43.0	
1	F	Todd Townsend	6-7/215	Sr.	1.8	1.7	0.6	34.6	50.0	23.3	
KEY	LO	SSES									
Pos.	Nai	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Karon Bradley	5-11/180	2.9	0.9	0.3	33.8	66.7	30.0
C	Scott Merritt*	6-10/245	11.2	7.1	1.0	45.0	70.8	33.3
F	Terry Sanders*	6-8/225	6.4	4.6	1.1	56.4	72.2	50.0

SCHEDULE

N14-16 BCA Classic	D7 South Dakota St.	D29 Coppin St.	J15 South Florida	J29 at Saint Louis	F12 at East Carolina	M2 Houston
N19-20 Blue & Gold Classic	D11 Wisconsin	J2 IPFW	J20 at DePaul	F2 UAB	F17 Louisville	M5 Saint Louis
N27 at Oakland	D18 Arizona	J8 at Tulane	J22 Charlotte	F5 Southern Miss.	F20 DePaul	
D1 Delaware St.	D21 Nebraska	J13 at Memphis	J26 at Louisville	F9 at TCU	F24 at Cincinnati	

6. DePaul

WHAT WE LIKE: It took a little while, but once Sammy Mejia figured things out in Division I, he was terrific. Mejia averaged 3.4 turnovers in his first 17 games and only 2.2 in his final 15. His size makes him a challenging matchup. A year's experience should make him more comfortable firing an open 3-pointer and more aggressive about attacking the lane. Drake Diener is the kind of dead-on shooter who might have made things a little easier for the 2004 U.S. Olympic team. But Diener has shown himself to be more than a catch-and-shoot guy. He shot a higher percentage inside the arc than outside, and he was an effective conduit to the Demons offense. The Demons will need to rely on forward Quemont Greer's toughness.

WHAT SCARES US: The frontcourt players, save for Greer, are almost entirely new. Marcus Heard, Lorenzo Thompson and Marlon Brumfield barely played last season. JC transfer Jamal Nichols and redshirt freshman Wesley Green represent DePaul's best hope for a big, powerful frontcourt. Green is extremely talented, but he can be a bit volatile. Nichols bounced to two different junior colleges; that doesn't condemn him, but it does provide a reason to wonder if the Demons can count on him in difficult situations. DePaul must continue to work the ball inside and out-rebound opponents.

X-FACTOR: Green could draw comparisons to Mejia. Some scouts doubted Mejia, as some do Green, and DePaul helped Mejia thrive. If the Demons can do the same with Green, they could reach the NCAAs again. Getting him in good shape is a priority. —*M.D.*

SCHEDULE

N20 Bowling Green	D4 at Bradley	D18 Illinois-Chicago	J8 Houston	J27 at Memphis	F12 Cincinnati	F26 Saint Louis
N23 Eastern Illinois	D6 IUPUI	D30 Rhode Island	J15 at Tulane	J29 at Southern Miss	F16 at Charlotte	M2 at UAB
N27 Northern Illinois	D11 at Notre Dame	J2 Old Dominion	J20 Marquette	F1 TCU	F20 at Marguette	M5 Louisville
D1 Dayton	D15 at Northwestern	J6 at Cincinnati	J22 East Carolina	F5 at Saint Louis	F23 South Florida	

Tyler Smith

BLUE DEMONS DATA

Coach: Doug Leitao (38-23, 2 years; 60-58 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 1-1).

Assistant coaches: Gene Cross (2 years), Tyler Jones (2), Josh Oppenheimer (2). 2003-04 record: 22-10. C-USA: 12-4/T1st. Lost to Connecticut in NCAA Phoenix Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Chicago. Website: www.depaulbluedemons.com

6-2/190

Home court: Allstate Arena (17,500).

DOSTED

	וכ					-				
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	14-05 st	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
44	F/C	Marlon Brumfield	6-9/260	Jr.	1.4	1.5	0.1	51.5	80.0	_
2	G	Draelon Burns	6-4/200	Fr.	High	score	played	for a top	prep pr	ogram.
5	F	Karron Clarke	6-6/200	So.	Miam	i tran	sfer mu	st sit out	2004-0	5.
12	G	Cliff Clinkscales	6-1/175	Fr.	Quick	point	guard	is an exc	ellent di	stributor.
22	G	Noah Craigwell	6-4/180	So.	0.8	0.3	0.0	50.0	_	100.0
33	G	Drake Diener*	6-5/180	Sr.	12.6	3.5	2.5	50.6	87.1	45.9
42	F	Sean Farrell	6-5/195	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	_		
4	C	Wesley Green	6-9/295	Fr.	Misse	d all d	of 2003-	04 with	a should	der injury.
45	F	Quemont Greer*	6-7/245	Sr.	12.6	7.4	1.6	44.6	69.3	13.7
21	F	Marcus Heard	6-7/225	So.	2.7	1.0	0.2	49.2	50.0	41.4
11	G	Sammy Mejia*	6-6/195	So.	7.9	4.3	4.4	39.3	75.3	37.0
15	F	Jamal Nichols	6-8/235	Jr.	JC tra	ansfe	rshoul	d help o	n the bo	oards.
3	G	LeVar Seals	6-4/180	Sr.	3.6	1.7	1.6	42.7	73.1	34.3
32	F/C	Lorenzo Thompson	6-8/260	So.	1.1	1.5	0.1	37.1	40.0	0.0
KEY	110	SSES								
Pos.	Nar		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	6	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F		ire Brown*	6-9/245	13.5		-	0.3	57.0	48.2	370
F		onte Holland*	6-7/220	16.5	5.		2.0	46.6		
	Del	onte nonana	0-77220	10.5	٥.	4	2.0	40.0	79.5	34.8

72.7

7. UAB

WHAT WE LIKE: What's UAB? Where's UAB? People who aren't familiar with the Birmingham school had been asking those questions for years, but they were answered last March when the Blazers reached the Sweet 16 with an exciting brand of up-and-down basketball. Two starters from that team that upset Kentucky in the second round of the NCAA Tournament return, including junior Demario Eddins and his 10.1 points and 4.7 rebounds per game. But more important, the Blazers now have a winning attitude, and Mike Anderson has established himself as a rising coach after more than a decade as an assistant under Nolan Richardson. Sometimes knowing how to win goes a long way. Using that as the criteria, UAB should be fine.

WHAT SCARES US: The two biggest contributors to last year's amazing season, Morris Finley and Gabe Kennedy, are gone. Both Taylor twins, Ronell and Donell, will have increased playing time and should be better. Still, UAB must replace its two leading scorers, and none of the three recruits seems capable of that kind of immediate impact in this kind of league. Another problem could come on the boards, where UAB ranked last in C-USA a year ago.

X-FACTOR: Anderson found a jewel in April when he signed Marvett McDonald. He won two NJCAA Championships at Southeastern (Iowa) Community College while draining 157 3-pointers the past couple of seasons. If that touch transfers to UAB, the Blazers have a serious spot-up shooter, the kind of guy who can flourish in a run-and-gun system where transition jumpers present themselves often. —*G.P.*

BLAZERS DATA

Coach: Mike Anderson (43-23, 2 years; NCAA Tournament 2-1).
Assistant coaches: Scott Edgar (2 years), Chris Giles (2), Matt Zimmerman (2).
2003-04 record: 22-10. C-USA: 12-4/T1st. Lost to Kansas in NCAA St.
Louis Region semifinal.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie).
Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.
Site: Birmingham, Ala. Website: www.uabsports.com
Home court: Bartow Arena (8,500).

ROSTER

				_	_	_				
*200	3-04	tarter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
42	G	Derrick Broom	6-5/200	Jr.	3.4	0.6	0.5	41.3	0.0	43.8
12	G	Reed Davis	6-1/180	Jr.	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
4	G	Paul Delaney	6-2/200	Fr.	Athle	tic, sla	shing g	uard who	can sco	ore.
23	F	Demario Eddins*	6-7/190	Jr.	10.1	4.7	2.8	47.8	71.9	30.4
15	F	Frank Holmes	6-9/210	Fr.	Avera	ged a	double	-double l	ast seas	on.
0	G	Carldell Johnson*	5-10/180	Jr.	4.8	1.8	4.3	40.5	69.8	43.8
31	G	Richard Jones	6-5/210	Jr.	3.0	1.0	0.8	38.8	54.5	24.2
3	F	Marques Lewis	6-8/285	Sr.	3.5	2.3	0.3	46.1	65.4	0.0
25	F	Ernest Little	6-9/230	So.	1.3	1.1	0.1	38.5	50.0	-
5	G	Marvett McDonald	6-2/170	Jr.	JC re	cruit ca	an do it	all in the	backco	urt.
	G/F	Wenbos Mukubu	6-6/205	So.	Arkar	nsas tr	ansfer v	vill redsh	irt 2004	-05.
1	G	Donell Taylor	6-6/180	Sr.	7.5	3.0	1.8	41.9	63.0	23.8
2	G	Ronell Taylor	6-5/180	Sr.	9.2	3.0	1.6	50.7	67.5	34.1
44	F	Brandon Tobias	6-7/220	Jr.	1.5	1.1	0.3	36.0	40.9	-
KE	VIC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F		Inev Ball*	6-5/203	7.4	- 0.00	.3	1.7	46.4	76.9	33.7

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	Sidney Ball*	6-5/203	7.4	5.3	1.7	46.4	76.9	33.7	
G	Morris Finley*	5-11/165	13.9	2.0	1.8	38.0	69.7	33.0	
G	Tony Johnson	6-1/180	1.9	1.8	1.2	51.2	80.0	20.0	
F	Gabe Kennedy*	6-9/240	11.4	5.3	1.0	50.4	64.8	0.0	

SCHEDULE

127 Va. Commonwealth	D10 at Oklahoma St.	D28 Alabama A&M	J8	at South Florida	J22	Memphis	F12	at TCU	F26	Tulane
129 Louisiana Tech	D15 Belmont	D31 at South Alabama	112	Charlotte		South Florida	F16	East Carolina	M2	DePaul
The state of the s	and the second second		-	and the same	-		100	at Cincinnati	ME	at Houston
02 Nebraska	D17 at Richmond	J2 Murray St.	115	at East Carolina		at Marquette	6.4.5	ac amount	MO	at nouston
04 at Marshall	D21-23 Rainbow Classic	J5 Southern Miss	J19	at Tulane	F5	Louisville	F23	at Saint Louis		

8. TCU

WHAT WE LIKE: The Horned Frogs got better under second-year coach Neil Dougherty, performing down the stretch like there was a purpose even though there really wasn't. They played Memphis and Charlotte close and beat Marquette and Louisville. TCU returns four starters from that team, including a backcourt of Corey Santee and Marcus Shropshire that's among the most productive in the league. The veterans combined to average 27.6 points a year ago. With the rest of the returnees, including Chundi Chinweze, the team returns 86.9 percent of its offense.

WHAT SCARES US: Though four starters return, TCU still enters this season without its nucleus. That would be Nucleus Smith, the third guard from the three-guard lineup that Dougherty put on the floor to utilize his team's athleticism and compensate for its lack of interior presence. Smith wasn't a go-to guy. But he did play more minutes than 10 others on the roster. Also, the Horned Frogs didn't have anybody average five rebounds last season. And there's no indication things will get better this season as TCU's three newcomers are guards.

X-FACTOR: The most probable guy to replace Smith in the starting lineup is Houston native Nile Murry, a former all-state performer who transferred from Temple. Was Murry sick of John Chaney's early morning practices? Possibly. Regardless, he should make an impact in his return this season, though his sophomore year at Temple wasn't spectacular and yielded one start and 2.9 points per outing. —*G.P.*

HORNED FROGS DATA

Coach: Neil Dougherty (21-36, 2 years).

Assistant coaches: Rick Callahan (2 years), David Cason (2), Kevin Lewis (2).

2003-04 record: 12-17. C-USA: 7-9/9th. Last regular-season title: 1998 (WAC). Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Fort Worth, Texas. Website: www.gofrogs.com Home court: Daniel-Meyer Coliseum (7,201).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: pr				nne	ADC	ren	ETO/	204
Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
23	F	Blake Adams	6-6/206	So.	3.2	1.3	0.2	35.0	40.0	35.3
22	F	Chudi Chinweze*	6-7/222	Jr.	10.7	4.9	0.8	55.6	61.1	-
21	F	Aaron Curtis	6-5/215	Sr.	5.0	3.2	0.8	36.0	76.9	22.4
13	G	Neil Dougherty	6-0/175	So.	0.6	0.5	0.3	16.7	69.2	16.7
2	G	Brent Hackett	6-3/185	Fr.	Score	d 73 p	oints in	one gan	ne last se	eason.
12	C	Femi Ibikunle*	6-9/254	So.	3.7	4.6	0.8	41.3	47.7	_
20	G	David Markley	5-10/165	Jr.	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	50.0	0.0
4	G	Nile Murry	6-4/206	Jr.	Temp	le tra	nsfer is	eligible	to play	
5	G	Neiman Owens	6-4/180	Fr.	Versa	tile gu	ard is t	alented o	on offens	e.
45	F	Art Pierce	6-9/234	So.	2.1	2.1	0.4	29.4	46.2	19.0
3	G	Corey Santee*	6-2/188	Sr.	14.5	3.1	4.4	42.2	73.4	35.3
10	G	Marcus Shropshire	* 6-0/197	Sr.	13.1	2.6	2.4	39.4	92.5	39.6
32	F	Marcus Sloan	6-9/221	Sr.	2.2	3.5	0.3	41.1	52.8	-
33	F	Corey Valsin	6-5/226	Sr.	3.3	2.8	0.3	45.2	61.8	23.5
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Mi	cleus Smith*	6-2/190	8.6	3	.8	2.0	42.5	83.2	32.6

SCHEDULE

N19-21 Corpus Christi Chal. N23 Texas Tech N27-28 Corpus Christi Chal.	D4 at North Texas D8 at Kansas D12 SMU	D21 MdEastern Shore D22 Arkansas-Pine Bluff D28 Grambling St.	J8 at Louisville J12 Tulane J15 at Memphis	J22 at Saint Louis J26 at Charlotte J29 Memphis	F5 at East Carolina F9 Marquette F12 UAB F19 at Houston	F23 at Tulane F26 Cincinnati M2 South Florida M5 at Southern Miss
D2 Texas-Arlington	D18 at Vanderbilt	J3 Texas St.	J19 Houston	F1 at DePaul	F19 at nouston	MD at Southern Miss

9. Southern Mississippi

WHAT WE LIKE: James Green was a solid coach, but there was no emotion surrounding the program. So former Iowa State coach Larry Eustachy was handed the reins and USM already is reaping the benefits, from ticket sales to recruiting inroads. Eustachy, who left Iowa State under the cloud of an admitted drinking problem, quickly landed sharpshooting guard Rashaad Carruth, the most highly regarded prospect to sign with Southern Miss in years. Yes, he has a sketchy past, and the kind of attitude that made him part ways with Kentucky and Oklahoma. But if the former McDonald's All-American reaches his potential, Eustachy could have one of the top players in the conference.

WHAT SCARES US: Southern Miss allowed opponents to shoot 45.3 percent from the field, a statistic that must improve. But the Golden Eagles' top interior presence and rebounder, Charles Gaines, is gone, and Eustachy will be challenged to teach his hard-nosed defensive passion to such holdovers as guards David Haywood, Dante Stiggers and Jarekus Singleton and undersized interior men Jasper Johnson and Ronald Pittman. Defense will be imperative because USM is in no position to try to outscore the likes of Louisville, Memphis and the other C-USA powers.

X-FACTOR: With a round face and portly middle, Johnson doesn't look like a big-time player. But the 6-8, 290-pound forward/center is skilled, the kind of player who can score inside or out and put points up in flurries. If he is consistent and effective, Southern Miss could sneak into postseason play. —*G.P.*

GOLDEN EAGLES DATA

Coach: Larry Eustachy (1st year; 260-145 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 3-3).

Assistant coaches: Steve Barnes (1st year), Austin Norris (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-15. C-USA: 6-10/10th.

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie, National Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: Hattiesburg, Miss. Website: www.southernmiss.com

Home court: Reed Green Coliseum (8,095).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names:	projected 200	04-05 st	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	F	Mildon Ambres	6-6/210	So.	LSU t	ransfe	er eligib	le after f	all seme	ster.
21	F/C	Dwayne Brown	6-8/240	Jr.	Stron	g defe	ender a	nd rebou	nder.	
10	G	Solomon Brown	6-2/175	Jr.	True	point	quard a	veraged	5.1 apg	last year.
2	G	Rashaad Carruth	6-3/195	Jr.				ellent co		
3	G	Michael Ford	6-1/195	Jr.	JC rec	cruit is	a versa	tile quar	d who c	an score.
00	G	Jason Forte	6-5/205	Jr.	3.5	2.2	1.2	34.6	42.9	18.4
1	G	David Haywood	6-4/180	Sr.	6.6	2.1	1.1	37.9	71.4	41.7
23	F/C	Jasper Johnson	6-8/290	Jr.	12.7	5.7	1.0	47.0	71.3	34.6
44	F	John Lewis	6-9/200	Sr.	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	25.0	_
	F/C	Shakiem Mitchell	6-9/230	Jr.	Has ti	hree y	ears' eli	gibility r	emainin	g.
11	F	Ronald Pittman	6-6/220	Sr.	2.9	2.1	0.3	61.5	34.1	_
22	G	Tyler Quinn	6-3/170	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	_
15	G	Sam Richardson	6-4/190	So.	0.9	0.7	0.8	25.0	40.0	28.6
20	G	Jarekus Singleton	* 6-3/210	So.	6.8	2.2	2.0	37.8	76.0	27.3
5	G	Dante Stiggers*	6-2/165	Sr.	3.6	2.0	4.0	37.4	56.0	11.8
KEY	LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Cle	ment Carter*	6-5/220	6.3	3.	.8	1.0	37.5	70.9	36.7
F	Cha	arles Gaines*	6-8/225	15.7	10.	4	0.8	49.5	72.7	25.0
G/F	Gre	g Johnson*	6-8/210	8.4	3.		1.0	39.7	64.9	23.4
		and the same of th	2000		-		-			20.

SCHEDULE

N2O-21 Jim Thorpe Classic D7 Spring Hill N24 SE Louisiana D11 Alcorn St. N27 McNeese St. D18 LSU D3-4 Hawkeye Challenge at Biloxi, Miss.
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10. Saint Louis

WHAT WE LIKE: The Billikens definitely have lacked offensive pizzazz, and that might not change soon, but having a Reggie Bryant makes them at least a little dangerous. Bryant can break loose for big games, but for the Bills to break the elite's stronghold on this league, he must be more consistent. Though he averaged nearly five points more than his closest teammate, Bryant led SLU in scoring only 13 times in 32 games. That and his sub-40.0 percent shooting should tell you that when he was on, he really was on, but he didn't get enough done the rest of the time. Dwayne Polk, a creative point who helped his team win three Missouri state titles, could make this team more dangerous. This team has mastered Brad Soderberg's clog-the-lane defense. Only six opponents topped 70 points last season.

WHAT SCARES US: The Billikens' scoring stats could be spliced into that sequel to *The Exorcist* and would be some of the most frightening images: 42.8 percent from the field, 34.2 percent on 3s, 62.7 points per game. If SLU is successful, this will be where critics congregate. If the team slips, this will be the weapon critics employ. Recruits can't change this alone; they will need help from veteran teammates.

X-FACTOR: The most promising post option, Tom Frericks, was bothered by asthma last season. He has the potential to draw attention away from Bryant on the perimeter. But that will depend on his health, his ability to stay out of foul trouble and his ability to hit free throws. Otherwise, SLU is headed for another year of trying to ugly up opponents and winning by executing late in close games. —*M.D.*

BILLIKENS DATA

Coach: Brad Soderberg (35-27, 2 years; 51-37 overall, 3 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Assistant coaches: Anthony Beane (2 years), Angres Thorpe (2), Jason Grunkemeyer (3).

2003-04 record: 19-13. C-USA: 9-7/T6th. Lost to Notre Dame in NIT second round

Last regular-season title: 1971 (MVC).

Last NCAA appearance: 2000.
Site: St. Louis. Website: www.slubillikens.com

Home court: Savvis Center (20,000)

DOSTED

No.	Pos. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	G Danny Brown	6-4/200	Fr.	Adds	firepo	wer to	a strong	backcou	rt.
32	G Wendell Bennett	6-3/222	So.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	_
21	G Reggie Bryant*	6-2/205	Sr.	16.4	3.9	1.9	39.7	76.9	36.7
11	G Darren Clarke	6-4/180	So.	2.1	0.8	0.3	34.4	54.5	31.6
20	G Anthony Drejaj	6-2/205	Jr.	6.5	2.3	2.2	41.0	58.1	36.3
1	C/F Tom Frericks*	6-9/250	Sr.	7.7	6.0	0.6	57.4	46.0	-
44	C Bryce Husak	7-0/250	Fr.	Devel	opme	ntal rec	Ishirt in 2	2003-04.	
23	F Justin Johnson	6-8/215	So.	1.8	1.2	0.4	39.5	33.3	-
32	G/F Luke Meyer	6-5/200	Fr.	Great	mid-r	ange sl	nooter; ca	an also h	it the 3
24	G lan Mooney	6-4/205	So.	0.7	0.7	0.0	66.7		-
33	F Vas'shun Newbor		Jr.		cruit	who sh	ould he	lp defen	sively.
30	F Izik Ohanon*	6-9/220	Sr.	7.2	2.8	1.1	42.9	71.2	14.3
00	G Dwayne Polk	5-9/160	Fr.	A floo	or lead	der wh	o puts u	p points	
15	C/F Ian Vouyoukas	6-10/250	So.	2.2	1.7	0.2	39.1	76.9	-
	Y LOSSES								
05.		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Josh Fisher*	6-2/200	11.7	4.	3	4.3	42.1	81.7	34.2
	Phillip Hunt	5-11/165	1.8	0.	8	0.3	46.4	73.3	41.2
	Chris Sloan*	6-7/215	9.7	4.	8	2.2	47.6	74.8	28.9
	Ross Varner	6-7/230	2.3	2.	5	0.6	32.9	58.8	33.3

SCHEDULE

N19-22 Paradise Jam D11 at Gonzaga N27 Oral Roberts D15 Oakland D4 Hawaii D18 Dayton D7 Wisconsin-Milwaukee D21 at Southern Illinois	D29 SE Missouri St. D31 at lowa J5 Tulane J8 Cincinnati	J15 at Charlotte J29 Marquette J19 at Southern Miss F2 at Houston J22 TCU F5 DePaul J26 at East Carolina F9 at South Florida	F12 Charlotte F26 at DePaul F16 IPFW M2 Memphis F20 at Louisville M5 at Marquette F23 UAB
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11. Tulane

WHAT WE LIKE: Last year in this space we wrote about how Tulane might not drop to the bottom of Conference USA if Ivan Pjevcevic developed into a solid contributor. Then the skilled 7-footer from Serbia promptly ended his year with a knee injury eight minutes into the season. So, we'll try again. Assuming Pjevcevic returns at full strength and stays healthy, Tulane will be better than last year's dismal campaign that produced only four league victories. Five of the Green Wave's six leading scorers return, including senior Marcus Kinzer, who was one of just four C-USA players to average more than 10 points, 3.5 rebounds and 3.0 assists last season.

WHAT SCARES US: Though Kinzer was mostly good at the point, he had nearly as many turnovers (82) as assists (94), which is never a good sign. That kind of carelessness led to Tulane finishing the season with a league-worst turnover margin of minus-3.61. Because the Green Wave has to deal with the relentless pressure that UAB produces at least twice this season—not to mention games with Memphis and Louisville—taking better care of the ball has to be its top priority. Otherwise, whether Pjevcevic is good won't really matter, and the team could be headed for another four-win league record.

X-FACTOR: Shawn Finney signed three high school prospects last year, none of whom are stars, but some of whom are decent. If Donnie Stith, Robinson Louisme or Matt Wheaton make an impact, Tulane will be significantly better. If not, it's up to the same cast that suffered through four losing streaks of three or more games. —*G.P.*

GREEN WAVE DATA

Coach: Shawn Finney (50-68, 4 years).

Assistant coaches: Jeff Reynolds (4 years), Steve Snell (3), Mark Dannhoff (3).

2003-04 record: 11-17. C-USA: 4-12/12th.

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie, National Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1995.

Site: New Orleans. Website: www.tulanegreenwave.com

Home court: Fogelman Arena (3,600)

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	rojected 2004	-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
30	G	Ben Benfield*	6-3/181	Sr.	7.2	2.7	1.3	40.1	68.6	36.0
4	G	Vincent Camper	6-3/210	So.	4.9	2.5	2.2	36.1	69.4	12.5
22	F	Kory Castine	6-8/235	So.	2.9	3.5	0.8	49.0	41.2	50.0
50	F/C	Quincy Davis*	6-9/232	Jr.	10.6	6.1	0.5	53.3	63.8	0.0
21	F/C	David Gomez	6-8/235	Fr.	Prolif	ic score	er from	Baton Re	ouge, La.	
11	G	Marcus Kinzer*	5-10/187	Sr.	10.1	3.6	3.4	40.4	82.4	36.2
45	F/C	Robinson Louisme	6-7/262	Fr.	Impo	sing po	st pres	ence has	a 7-3 w	ingspan.
3	G/F	Chris Moore	6-5/177	So.	3.7	1.3	0.5	29.2	62.5	27.1
44	C	Ivan Pjevcevic	7-0/242	Sr.	Medi	cal red	dshirt v	vho star	ted in 2	002-03.
10	G	Taylor Rochestie	6-1/175	Fr.	Pure	point g	uard w	ho can s	core from	n outside.
5	F	Donnie Stith	6-6/215	Fr.	Top-r	notch d	efende	r and go	od ballh	andler.
40	F	Vytas Tatarunas*	6-6/237	Jr.	9.3	7.2	1.2	40.7	48.7	32.0
25	G/F	Matt Wheaton	6-5/190	Fr.	New	omer a	adds at	nleticism	to back	court.
VE	V10	CCCC								

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
C	George Brown	6-10/246	3.4	2.6	0.1	40.3	61.3	_	
F	Dan Fitzgerald	6-8/189	4.2	1.8	1.0	35.6	62.5	29.1	
G/F	Wayne Tinsley*	6-5/218	9.8	5.7	3.4	40.1	63.2	35.8	

SCHEDULE

N19-21 LSU Tournament	D6 at Northwestern St.	D31	VMI	J15	DePaul	J29	Louisville	F19	Charlotte	M5	East Carolina
N27 Prairie View A&M	D18 Savannah St.	15	at Saint Louis	J19	UAB	F5	at South Florida	F23	TCU		
N30 at New Orleans	D21 North Carolina A&T	18	Marquette	J22	at Southern Miss	F9	Southern Miss	F26	at UAB		
D3 Loyola-New Orelans	D27-28 Sun Bowl Tourn.	J12	at TCU	J26	at Houston	F12	at Memphis	M2	at Cincinnati		

12. East Carolina

WHAT WE LIKE: It's easy to believe in Bill Herrion. Six of his teams at Drexel reached the 20-win mark—two without the great Malik Rose. But when praise for the coach's record is the best you can say about a team year after year, something's not right. Center Moussa Badiane is useful as a defender; he will become the league's career blocks leader. Herrion believes Badiane is making progress as an offensive player. Big guard Mike Cook has the potential to star. He turned over the ball too much and is not a great shooter, but he's extremely powerful with the ball and could score in the mid-teens. The future is staked on recruits, including scoring guard Josh King, who set the North Carolina state record for 3-pointers in a season.

WHAT SCARES US: Only four of the 10 scholarship players are veterans. And there are only 10 players on the roster. Longtime regulars Derrick Wiley, Gabriel Mikulas and Erroyl Bing are gone. These guys were responsible for much of what went right for the program. ECU will almost be starting over, with one double-figure scorer returning. This team has yet to enjoy productive point guard play. Japhet McNeil was supposed to be the guy. His struggle as a shooter was a liability.

X-FACTOR: This is the last year the Pirates will be outclassed in their own league. In the past two seasons, ECU was 1-13 against Cincinnati, Marquette, Louisville and Charlotte. Yet they were 14-5 against non-league Division I opponents in those two seasons—and 4-6 against teams that will remain in C-USA after this season. That hope for the future might drive them this season. —*M.D.*

PIRATES DATA

Coach: Bill Herrion (61-79, 5 years; 228-150 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 1-3).

Assistant coaches: Greg Herenda (4 years), George Stackhouse (3), Dino Preslev (1).

2003-04 record: 13-14. C-USA: 5-11/11th.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1983.

Site: Greenville, N.C. Website: www.ecupirates.com Home court: Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum (8,000).

ROSTER

-										
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pi	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
25	C	Moussa Badiane*	6-10/220	Sr.	8.5	6.3	0.6	55.5	63.2	-
32	C	Charles Bronson	6-10/230	Fr.	With	Kilgoi	re, led p	rep tean	to a 29	-3 record
35	F	Mike Castro	6-7/225	Jr.	JC tr	ansfe	r adds	another	post pre	esence.
34	G	Mike Cook*	6-4/220	So.	10.4	3.5	3.1	42.1	65.3	19.5
21	G	Tom Hammonds Jr.	6-4/200	Fr.	Bring	s dep	th to the	e backcoi	urt.	
31	F	Jonathan Hart	6-6/180	Fr.	Good	athle	te with	good size	e on the	wing.
4	G	Marvin Kilgore	6-3/190	Fr.	Aver	aged :	22 ppg,	7 apg a	s a prep	senior.
20	G	Josh King	5-11/175	Fr.	Can :	shoot	from lo	ong rang	e.	
10	G	Japhet McNeil	5-11/170	So.	4.4	1.7	3.6	35.2	57.9	24.4
23	F	Corey Rouse	6-8/195	Jr.	4.3	3.4	0.2	61.0	48.9	-
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Err	oyl Bing*	6-7/245	9.3	8	.3	0.6	41.3	62.4	33.8
F	Ga	briel Mikulas*	6-8/235	13.0	6	.8	0.9	62.2	83.6	75.0
G	Be	Iton Rivers	6-1/190	8.2	1	.5	1.6	39.6	72.7	35.4

6-4/190 148

SCHEDULE

JOI ILLUCIE						
N17-19 BCA Invitational	D7 at Western Carolina	D20 South Carolina	J5 South Florida	J19 at Louisville	F2 at Memphis	F19 at South Florida
N23 at Gardner-Webb	D12 Old Dominion	at Mobile, Ala.	J8 at Charlotte	J22 at DePaul	F5 at TCU	F23 Southern Miss.
N28 Belmont Abbey	D17 Winthrop	D29 at Clemson	J12 Cincinnati	J26 Saint Louis	F12 Marquette	F26 Houston
D1 Toledo		J3 St. Andrews	J15 UAB	J29 Charlotte	F16 at UAB	M5 at Tulane

Derrick Wiley*

66.4 40.4

13 409

59

3. Houston

WHAT WE LIKE: Andre Owens, who has started every game the past two seasons, is the kind of scorer who should flourish under new coach Tom Penders' fast-paced approach. As a junior, Owens averaged 16.0 points for a team that averaged only 59.0. Both of those numbers should rise, assuming Penders hasn't changed his philosophy. While Penders was at Texas, for instance, the Longhorns—dubbed the Runnin' Horns—averaged 87.2 points in 10 mostly successful seasons. If Penders can rebuild Houston in a similar fashion—and maybe return it close to the days of Guy Lewis-then athletic director Dave Maggard made a great hire.

WHAT SCARES US: To be successful in Penders' system, scoring in transition, making jumpers and sinking free throws is a necessity. The bad news is the roster Penders inherited isn't equipped for any of that. Houston played slow last year and was last in Conference USA in field-goal percentage (39.2), 3-point percentage (30.2) and free throw percentage (63.3). Maybe one of Penders' five junior college signees can help. But somehow, Houston has to be better at the most basic principle of basketball: scoring.

X-FACTOR: Andrew Francis was the best incoming prospect on the roster last year. He became the first Cougars freshman since 1982 to start the opening game in the frontcourt and was impressive early. But then he suffered a back injury that ended his season after four games. If Francis recovers and shows the same kind of promise, Penders could have a centerpiece for his rebuilding effort. —G.P.

SCHEDULE

N15-24 Guardians Classic N19 McNeese St. N27 Grambling St.	D4 at Lamar D16 New Orleans D18 SE Louisiana	D24 at Washington D29 at Texas A&M J5 Louisville	J11 Centenary J26 Tulane J15 Southern Miss J29 at Cincinnati J19 at TCU F2 Saint Louis	F9 at Charlotte F26 at East Carolina F12 at Southern Miss M2 at Marquette F16 South Florida M5 UAB
N30 at Rice	D21 LSU	J8 at DePaul	J22 at South Florida F5 Memphis	F19 TCU

14. South Florida

WHAT WE LIKE: The Bulls were awful last season, winning only seven times. They dropped 15 of 16 conference games while playing at times with as few as five scholarship players and a host of undertalented, overambitious walk-ons. One of the few bright spots was forward Terrence Leather, who averaged 15.5 points and 8.4 rebounds. Leather remains the Bulls' most potent offensive option; he can score inside and step away from the basket to sink jumpers. He'll be joined again by guards Bradley Mosley and Brian Swift, who averaged 14.6 and 9.9 points, respectively. With that trio in place, the team should be better.

WHAT SCARES US: The team has five newcomers, but none seems capable of having a huge impact. Maurice Mobley, for example, is an accomplished JC prospect—but at 6-5, he's undersized for the post in C-USA. Thus, second-year coach Robert McCullum probably will rely on his veteran returnees—who don't have a great track record. Purdue transfer Melvin Buckley might be the best player on the roster, but the Bulls will have to wait a year before he becomes eligible.

X-FACTOR: Marius Prekevicius, a 6-5 wing from Lithuania, averaged 16.2 points and 3.8 assists per game last season as a freshman at Weatherford (Texas) Community College. He is fundamentally sound, like most European products. But the level of competition Prekevicius faced in junior college wasn't all that tough, meaning he might have a shaky adjustment period. But if the transition goes smoothly, USF will have a difference-maker. —G.P.

SCHEDULE

JUI ILDULL					
N20 Stephen F. Austin N29 Bethune-Cookman	D11 at Michigan	J5 at East Carolina	J22 Houston	F5 Tulane	F19 East Carolina
N23 Prairie View A&M at Lakeland, Fla.	D14 at South Carolina	J8 UAB	J27 Cincinnati	F9 Saint Louis	F23 at DePaul
N26 Stetson D1 at Richmond	D20 Florida International	J15 at Marquette	J29 at UAB	F12 at Louisville	M2 at TCU
D3-4 McCaffrey Classic	D29 Texas-Arlington	J19 Memphis	F2 at Southern Miss	F16 at Houston	M5 Charlotte

COUGARS DATA

Coach: Tom Penders (1st year; 527-361 overall, 30 years; NCAA Tournament

Assistant coaches: George Walker (9 years), Melvin Haralson (2), Michael Young (1), Shanon Hays (1st).

2003-04 record: 9-18. C-USA: 3-13/13th. Last regular-season title: 1992 (tie, SWC). Last NCAA appearance: 1992. Site: Houston. Website: www.uhcougars.com

Home court: Hofheinz Pavilion (8,479).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
3	G	Kevin Barber	6-1/175	Jr.	0.5	0.6	0.4	16.7	100.0	16.7
32	F	E. Cherrington	6-7/235	Jr.	JC tr	ansfe	r grabb	ed 10.2	rpg last	season.
5	C	Sergio de Randamie	6-7/240	Jr.	Nativ	e of S	uriname	e excels o	n defen	se.
25	F	Ramon Dyer*	6-7/190	Jr.	3.1	4.2	0.3	36.5	63.6	22.7
1	F	Andrew Francis	6-7/193	Fr.	Starte	ed 4 g	ames la	st year be	efore hur	ting back
00	C	Rodney Hannah	6-8/240	Jr.	Great	tathle	ete with	1 36" ve	rtical ju	mp.
30	F	Cedrick Hensley	6-4/195	Jr.	3.6	2.2	0.8	29.8	70.4	30.6
13	G	Dwight Jones II	6-2/175	So.	Redsh	nirted	last sea	son to fo	ocus on a	cademics
11	G	Brian Latham	6-1/185	Jr.	Athle	te wh	o can pl	ay both	guard po	sitions.
2	G	Chris Lawson	6-4/210	Jr.	A phy	ysical	player	who co	uld star	t.
45	C	Moshood Martins	6-8/230	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	_
21	C	Elijah Miller	6-10/208	So.	1.3	1.1	0.2	44.4	50.0	_
20	G	Andre Owens*	6-4/200	Sr.	16.0	5.4	3.0	37.2	73.3	31.5
24	G	Bryan Shelton	6-4/175	Sr.	3.6	1.0	0.7	38.3	71.4	39.3
23	G	Lanny Smith*	6-3/185	So.	8.4	2.1	3.2	36.4	61.3	32.6
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nar	ne	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Anv	war Ferguson*	7-0/210	7.5	7.	4	0.2	53.8	57.6	0.0
2	And	dy Ikeakor	6-8/265	2.4	3.	1	0.5	30.5	50.0	_
5	Ma	rcus Oliver*	6-3/195	10.1	3.	0	1.0	42.6	63.2	22.0

BULLS DATA

Coach: Robert McCullum (7-20, 1 year; 51-65 overall, 4 years). Assistant coaches: Frank Burnell (1 year), Julius Allen (1st), Greg Gary (1st).

2003-04 record: 7-20. C-USA: 1-15/14th.

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie, National Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1992. Site: Tampa. Website: www.gousfbulls.com Home court: Sun Dome (10,411).

DOCTED

HU.	51	EH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200-	4-05 s	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	C	Brandon Brigman	6-8/250	Sr.	4.7	3.8	0.5	42.1	57.4	_
1	G	Marlyn Bryant	6-3/210	Sr.	5.2	2.8	0.8	50.0	58.8	27.3
24	G/F	Melvin Buckley	6-7/205	Jr.	Purd	ie tran	sfer m	ust sit ou	t 2004-0)5.
10	G	Chris Capko	6-1/185	So.	Floric	la tran	sfer is e	eligible i	mid-De	ecember.
23	G	Collin Dennis	6-2/185	Fr.	Versa	tile gu	ard wit	h outsid	e scoring	power.
33	C	Konimba Diarra	6-10/235	So.	0.7	1.0	0.0	37.5	100.0	_
5	G	Brandyn Flowers	6-2/165	So.	0.6	0.3	0.0	25.0	33.3	-
25	G	James Holmes	6-2/195	Jr.	4.2	1.4	0.8	38.3	22.2	26.7
44	F/C		6-10/220	Jr.	Sat o	ut last	season	; played	JC ball in	102-03.
21	F	Terrence Leather*	6-9/230	Sr.	15.5	8.4	1.6	49.3	67.3	19.4
50	F	Maurice Mobley	6-5/235	Jr.	JC red	ruit is	a stron	g finishe	r down l	ow.
12	G	Bradley Mosley*	6-2/185	Sr.	14.6	2.9	3.3	38.9	74.8	27.4
23	F	Stevie Moss	6-5/210	Jr.	Pract	iced w	ith tear	m in '03-	04 but d	idn't play.
5		Marius Prekevicius	6-5/210	So.	Mem	ber of	Lithuar	nian Nati	onal tea	m.
3	G	Brian Swift*	5-10/165	Sr.	9.9	2.7	4.4	41.9	71.8	40.0
15	G	Montavious Waters	6-3/200	Fr.	Penet	trator v	will pro	vide dep	th at the	point.
KEY	/ LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F/G	Sar	n Barber	6-5/200	4.5	3.	.5	0.5	37.0	70.6	37.5
F/G		ımy Baxter	6-5/210	9.8	3.	.8	2.3	43.4	45.8	30.8
G	Bri	an Graham*	6-4/200	3.6	4.	.1	1.2	44.7	63.3	33.3
C	Ger	rrick Morris*	6-10/220	5.0	6.	1	0.6	43.1	62.2	-

Big Ten

If renaissance is coming, there's little evidence it will get here soon

t must have been a little like the day William Hurt showed up to begin filming Lost In Space. He'd been one of the brightest stars of the 1980s, from The Big Chill to Body Heat to his Oscar for Kiss Of The Spider Woman. And then he was gone, and nobody really understood how it happened.

See the parallels to the Big Ten? It was great, and then it wasn't. Just like that.

The 2003-04 season began with considerable promise, but the only team in the league that delivered was Penn State. We all knew the Nittany Lions would be dreadful, and they were.

With the distance provided by the offseason, league principals will try to tell you things weren't as bad as so many of us said. Oh, but they were. The three NCAA Tournament invitations were the league's fewest since 1984. The three NCAA victories marked its poorest performance since 1996. The Big Ten finished sixth in the Ratings Percentage Index standings; from 1996 to 2001, it had never dropped lower than third.

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Illinois	13	3	26	7
Wisconsin	12	4	25	7
Michigan State	12	4	18	12
lowa	9	7	16	13
Michigan	8	8	23	11
Northwestern	8	8	14	15
Purdue	7	9	17	14
Indiana	7	9	14	15
Ohio State	6	10	14	16
Minnesota	3	13	12	18
Penn State	3	13	9	19

The revelation this summer that Ohio State would be investigating alleged NCAA rules violations put the Buckeyes into the same category as Michigan and Minnesota, which means more than a fourth of the membership has been through the NCAA justice system since 1999. That's the kind of percentage you might have found in the executive washroom at Enron.

Is there hope? Well, the Big Ten still is the league of Bracey Wright, Deron Williams, Dee Brown and Paul Davis. It's the league of Tom Izzo and Bo Ryan. There might be a top-line recovery this season, but the overall

health of the league remains in distress. The Big Ten needs better players, and they're still not on the way.

If there's a renaissance coming, it seems a long way off.

ASCENDING:

Michigan. The Wolverines' NIT championship should provide momentum for a team that's rich in young talent in the frontcourt and on the wings. There's a sense of urgency that goes with that momentum. Tommy Amaker has been a head coach seven years, all at majorconference schools, and he has led one team to the NCAA Tournament. This is a crucial season for him and his team.

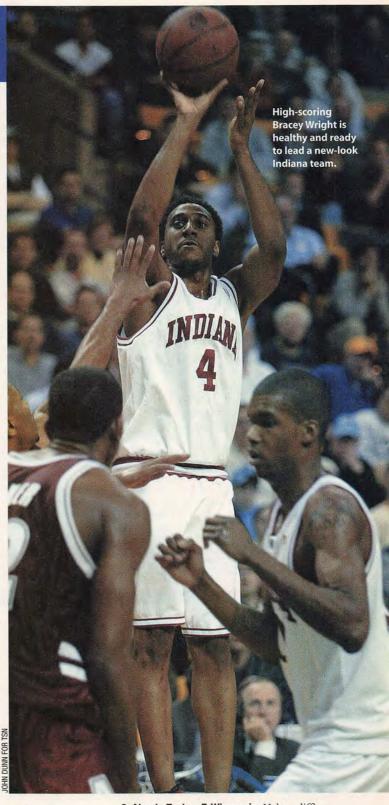
DESCENDING:

Minnesota. The Gophers also received this tag last year and lived up to it. And from that team, the most productive player (Kris Humphries) is gone. When a staff keeps gluing patches onto a program, it rarely produces good results. The Gophers have seen their Big Ten record decline from 9-7 to 8-8 to 3-13.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Dion Harris, G, Michigan. With

Bernard Robinson Jr. out of the way, Harris' minutes will increase. But his shot selection must improve, as well. He's good enough with the ball to attack the goal, and effective enough at the free throw line to make those attacks worthwhile.



2. Alando Tucker, F, Wisconsin. He's as difficult to guard as any player in Division I. You can't stop him on the perimeter with a power forward because wings have trouble guarding him. You can't stop him inside with a wing because big guys have trouble with him. Without point guard Devin

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RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- 1. Indiana: Rebounding machine D.J. White will be one of the best newcomers in the Big Ten. Perimeter shooters A.J. Ratliff, James Hardy and Robert Vaden will give the Hoosiers depth.
- 2. Michigan State: Drew Neitzel is a floor leader who's just what the Spartans need. 6-10 bookends Goran Suton and Idong Ibok will add depth inside, along with potential starter 6-8 Marquise Gray.
- 3. Iowa: The team needed inside help and signed JC enforcer Doug Thomas. The key to rapid improvement will be lowa State transfer Adam Haluska. He's a deadly wing shooter with double-double capacity.
- 4. Minnesota: Among many newcomers, Boston College transfer Dan Coleman might have the inside track to start at power forward. JC guards Vincent Grier and J'son Stamper could start as well.
- 5. Wisconsin: Big man Greg Stiemsma could become one of the Big Ten's best low-post talents. In the backcourt, Sharif Chambliss will be a difference-maker, and DeAaron Williams will add depth.
- 6. Ohio State: High schooler Jermyl Jackson-Wilson is the heir apparent to departed forward Shun Jenkins. But guards Jamar Butler and Je'Kel Foster hold the key to a turnaround for the Buckeyes this year.
- 7. Purdue: Three quality JCs include wing scorer Bryant Dillon and physical rebounders Gary Ware and Carl Landry. Each of them has a shot at starting. Xavier Price has potential but needs time to mature.
- 8. Illinois: The Illini signed two top 100 prospects: rebounder Shaun Pruitt and fast-rising wing Calvin Brock.
- 9. Northwestern: Transfers Mike Thompson and Tim Doyle will help right from the start.
- 10. Penn State: The Nittany Lions will see immediate help from 6-7 JC Travis Parker and hope that the freshman backcourt duo of Mike Walker and Danny Morrissey can give them quality minutes.
- 11. Michigan: Wing Ronald Coleman will come in and battle for a spot on the floor from the get-go.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

Harris, Wisconsin will rely more on Tucker to create offense.

3. James Augustine, F, Illinois. He has progressed in each of his two seasons and is essential to Illinois' designs for its first Final Four trip since 1989. He's capable of scoring in the mid-teens and adding another couple of rebounds to his average.

BEST BETS:

1. The Big Ten will be the unofficial headquarters for next spring's coaching carousel. Ohio State (Thad Matta) and Purdue (Matt Painter in 2005-06) already have tabbed new coaches. But that won't be the last of it. Too many programs in this league are

stagnant or deteriorating.

2. Wisconsin will do more than expected. In Ryan's three seasons, TSN picked the Badgers ninth (tied for first), fourth (won it outright) and third (runner-up).

3. Ohio State will be tougher. Before departing, Jim O'Brien worked to establish a new attitude by pushing players with a brutal conditioning program designed to get them to shape up or quit. They're all still on board. The Buckeyes still need talent, but Matta's honeymoon gives him license to weed out players who refuse to commit.

E-mail senior writer Mike DeCourcy at decourcy@sportingnews.com.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Illinois	33	46.7	69.5	34.9	34.9	17.1	6.8	3.7	12.2	72.8
lowa	29	46.0	67.2	36.5	37.9	15.2	7.2	4.6	16.3	71.4
Michigan State	30	49.2	77.1	40.1	30.3	14.7	7.1	1.8	14.6	71.3
Minnesota	30	42.9	71.4	31.4	36.3	15.0	6.9	4.7	13.8	70.1
Michigan	34	44.9	69.6	33.4	35.9	13.1	7.6	4.7	14.9	68.9
Wisconsin	32	44.7	71.9	33.7	32.8	13.3	6.9	2.8	10.0	68.4
Ohio State	30	44.4	64.9	34.1	33.6	11.7	6.6	2.4	14.6	65.0
Indiana	29	39.7	72.4	33.0	35.2	11.9	5.1	3.5	12.4	64.9
Purdue	31	42.6	73.6	33.5	33.8	13.9	5.7	3.4	13.3	64.9
Northwestern	29	43.7	66.8	31.6	26.4	15.0	8.2	1.5	11.3	61.6
Penn State	28	39.8	66.2	33.3	35.0	12.1	5.0	2.5	15.8	58.3

TOTAL DEFENSE

2.8	14.1	57.0
3.3		
	14.1	60.6
3.4	14.4	62.9
2.9	15.1	62.9
3.2	14.9	63.2
4.1	11.5	66.9
2.8	14.1	67.5
3.6	12.1	67.6
2.9	13.1	68.5
3.3	13.7	68.9
3.4	13.8	71.7
	3.2 4.1 2.8 3.6 2.9 3.3	3.2 14.9 4.1 11.5 2.8 14.1 3.6 12.1 2.9 13.1 3.3 13.7

PREDICTIONS

1. Illinois*	7. Purdue
2. Michigan State*	8. Northwestern
3. Wisconsin*	9. Ohio State
4. Michigan*	10. Minnesota
5. Indiana	11. Penn State
6. lowa	*NCAA tourney pick

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM Ht. Wt. Class Pos. Name, school Deron Williams, Illinois 6-3 210 Jr. Dee Brown, Illinois 6-0 175 Bracey Wright, Indiana 6-3 200 Alando Tucker, Wisconsin 6-5 205 So. Paul Davis, Michigan State 6-11 250 SECOND TEAM Pos. Name, school Ht. Wt. Class Chris Hill, Michigan State 6-3 190 Sr. Pierre Pierce, Iowa 6-4 195 Jr. Lester Abram, Michigan 6-6 200 Jr. Mike Wilkinson, Wisconsin 6-8 240 Sr. F/C Courtney Sims, Michigan 6-11 230 So.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Deron Williams, G, Illinois

He doesn't look like a point guard. In fact, he doesn't look all that much like a player. He's stocky, thick and muscular. But when he moves



with the ball, defenders struggle to keep pace. He finds open teammates, doesn't turn over the ball and is an excellent long-range shooter. Williams is as deceptive as any player in college basketball.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR D.J. White, F, Indiana

If the Hoosiers are to have any hope of returning to what they once were, White will have to be a starter, and a good one. He plays with high energy, much like former Florida forward Donnell Harvey, but has slightly more sophistication in his offensive game. White can shoot a little and has low-post scoring technique.

MOST UNDERRATED

Roger Powell, F, Illinois

He took guff for entering the NBA draft, a move that seemed out of touch with his career but turned out to be designed to get him a pre-draft camp invitation. That never developed, so he quickly headed back to the Illini. Powell probably isn't an NBA player, but he's a solid rebounder who rarely launches an ill-advised attempt.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Chris Hill, Michigan State Best playmaker: Deron Williams, Illinois Best NBA prospect: Bracey Wright, Indiana Best defender: Alan Anderson, Michigan State Most versatile: Alando Tucker, Wisconsin

SCHEDULE

at Indianapolis

.at Little Rock Chicago St.

at Georgetown

at Chicago

D19-31 Las Vegas Holiday Cl. Ohio St.

at Northwestern

at Wisconsin

at Michigan

F16 at Penn St.

M1 or 2 Purdue

F23 Northwestern

M5 or 6 at Ohio State

at Michigan St.

Oregon D11

at Purdue

Penn St.

N19 Delaware St

N21 Florida A&M N24 Oakland

Wake Forest

N27 Gonzaga

D4 Arkansas

J20 lowa

J25

129 Minnesota

F1

F6 Indiana

F12 Wisconsin

F19 at lowa

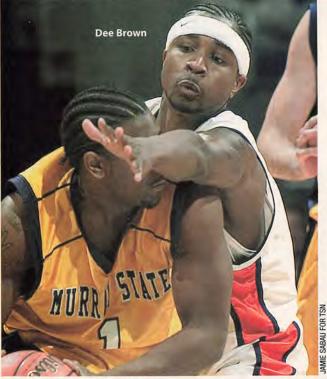
WHAT WE LIKE: The defending Big Ten champs return all five starters and their top 10 scorers. Enough said. Well, not quite. Let's start with guards Deron Williams and Dee Brown, who form one of the best backcourt tandems in the country. They run the Illinois offense with poise, power and, most of all, plenty of RPMs. Last year, Williams and Brown-who should both contend for conference Player of the Year honors—combined to average 27.3 points, 10.7 assists and 6.9 rebounds. Together, they dished out 2.4 assists for every

turnover. And they did it all at a breakneck pace for an offense that led the league in scoring (72.8 ppg) and assists. Brown and Williams are blurs in the open court and abuse teams that jog back on defense. Both also are in-your-shorts defenders who can rattle even the surest ballhandlers. On the wings, Luther Head and Roger Powell are both leapers who can bust out for a big scoring night. Inside, James Augustine and 7-2 Nick Smith are the main men. Augustine took a step forward as a sophomore and needs to do the same this season. Smith is a string bean who won't push anyone around. But he's a savvy offensive player with a smooth 3-point shot and he can sting opponents at the worst possible time. The bench is loaded with such reliable reserves as Jack Ingram, Warren Carter and Rich McBride. Coach Bruce Weber earned respect-not to mention a pay raise and contract extension—by leading the Illini to their first outright league crown since 1952 in his first season after arriving from Southern Illinois.

WHAT SCARES US: Illinois needs to get more consistent offensive production in the paint. Coaches want Augustine to get more aggressive and develop a go-to post move-and at least one counter move-to keep defenders off-balance. Smith tends to float around the perimeter too much, and Powell is a bit

undersized at power forward. When the Illini are effective inside, it relieves the pressure on Brown and Williams and makes them almost unstoppable. The health of Brown and Williams also is a concern. Though it wasn't revealed until season's end, Brown played—and played well—with a stress fracture in his right leg down the stretch. Afterward, he wore a protective boot and played sparingly, skipping tryouts for the U.S. 20-and-under World Championship team to rest the leg. The Illini hope Brown, who played the last two summers for USA Basketball, is ready to start the season. But it's tough to know what effect his lost summer might have. Williams, who earned team MVP honors over Brown, also missed the U.S. tryouts because of a hamstring injury. Beyond the trainer's table, Illinois simply doesn't have obvious weaknesses. The Illini must continue to adapt to Weber's motion offense, which is a stark contrast to former coach Bill Self's multitude of halfcourt sets. But after initially struggling last year, the players got on board with the new guy's scheme. Also, keep an eye on the post defense. Often, the big men are foul-prone. Are the backups capable of filling the void should the starters get shackled with fouls?

X-FACTORS: How will they handle the hype? After last season's Sweet 16 run, Illinois will start the year as a hands-down favorite to repeat as Big Ten champs while garnering lofty national rankings. Will the expectations be a boost or a burden? If Weber's crew presses for perfection early but stumbles—and in this age of parity, everyone does-the coach must be on the spot with perspective. Mental maintenance after wins and losses might be Weber's biggest task. Even in down years, the Big Ten is a brutal 16-game endurance test filled with sharp elbows and bloody noses. Illinois must show the maturity to focus on and dispatch lesser foes. If motivation becomes an issue, Weber can roll the tape of last year's loss at in-state rival Northwestern. The talent is in Champaign. But if the Illini start to rely on talent alone, they won't uncork any championships.



A BIG TEN COACH SAYS:

They are one of the best teams in the Big Ten and one of the better teams in the country. I like having two point guards on the floor. (Dee Brown and Deron Williams) both do a great job of keeping track of time and score. I like James Augustine; he's skilled and smart. At times, he can get a little soft. They can be a little soft defensively inside. I think Bruce Weber's philosophy is, "This is how we play, and we're not going to adjust a whole lot." If your players are better than his, or his guys aren't doing what they're taught, you're going to score.

ILLINI DATA

Coach: Bruce Weber (26-7, 1 year; 129-61 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 4-3).

Assistant coaches: Wayne McClain (3 years), Jay Price (1), Tracy Webster

2003-04 record: 26-7. Big Ten: 13-3/1st. Lost to Duke in NCAA Atlanta Region semifinal

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1999.

Site: Champaign, III. Website: www.fightingillini.com

Home court: Assembly Hall (16,500).

30	5TI	ER								
*200	3-04 9	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
44	F	Marcus Arnold	6-8/240	Jr.	Illinoi	s Stat	e transf	er must s	it out 20	004-05.
40	F	James Augustine*	6-10/220	Jr.	9.5	7.3	0.6	63.5	64.2	0.0
15	G	Calvin Brock	6-5/180	Fr.	Loves	to pe	netrate	from the	wing.	
11	G	Dee Brown*	6-0/175	Jr.	13.3	3.7	4.5	41.1	67.1	34.6
41	F	Warren Carter	6-9/205	So.	1.2	0.6	0.3	40.0	80.0	-
4	G	Luther Head*	6-3/175	Sr.	11.0	3.8	2.6	44.8	77.8	34.3
50	F/C	Jack Ingram	6-10/245	Sr.	2.2	2.2	0.4	42.7	66.7	14.3
33	G	Rich McBride	6-3/210	So.	3.2	1.2	1.1	30.3	80.0	32.4
34	F	Fred Nkemdi	6-6/235	Sr.	0.0	0.5	0.0	-	_	-
43	F	Roger Powell*	6-6/220	Sr.	11.6	5.0	0.7	59.5	63.8	33.3
55	F	Shaun Pruitt	6-9/225	Fr.	Lefth	anded	shoote	r adds br	awn ins	ide.
42	F	Brian Randle	6-8/200	So.	2.7	2.3	0.5	56.5	46.4	25.0
45	C	Nick Smith	7-2/240	Sr.	6.8	3.2	1.2	45.5	80.3	30.8
5	G	Deron Williams*	6-3/210	Jr.	14.0	3.2	6.2	40.8	78.7	39.4
KE	LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
None	2									

Michigan State

WHAT WE LIKE: Most of the pieces are in place for a return to power. It starts with center Paul Davis, who unlike past stars Jason Richardson, Zach Randolph and Marcus Taylor, decided to stick around for a third season in East Lansing. After a slow start, Davis made big strides last year. He was decisive and aggressive offensively, showing post moves and shooting touch. His passing out of doubleteams is a big reason MSU led the Big Ten in 3-point shooting percentage (.401). In a league devoid of proven post players, there's every

SCHEDULE

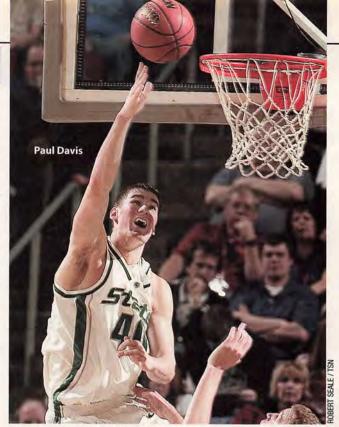
- N19 Florida A&M N23 Wisconsin-Green Ray N27 Nicholls St.
- N30 at Duke D4-5 BB&T Classic
- D11 Stanford
- at Auburn Hills, Mi D18 Delaware St.
- D21 UCLA D29 UNC Asheville
- 15 at Penn St. Northwestern
- 18 J16 at Wisconsin 118 Purdue
- J22 at Minnesota J27 Michigan
- 129 Oakland
- F1 Illinois F5 at lowa
- F9 Ohio St
- F12 at Michigan F16 Minnesota
- F19 at Purdue
- Wisconsin
- F27 at Indiana M1 or M2 at Northwestern
- M5 Penn St.

reason to believe Davis can be dominant. Chris Hill, Alan Anderson and Kelvin Torbert also are back for one last crack at a title. Hill, a deadly shooter, was Michigan State's most consistent player on both ends last year. Anderson struggled while trying to play point guard on offense and power forward on defense. Torbert is coming off a breakthrough year in which he hit a Big Ten-best 48 percent of his 3-pointers with a retooled jumper. The Spartans are loaded on the wings with explosive athletes like streak-shooting Maurice Ager and Shannon Brown, who enjoyed a solid debut. Incoming freshman Drew Neitzel-Michigan's Mr. Basketball-should bring muchneeded grit at point guard. Although he is three years removed from a championship, coach Tom Izzo still is one of the best in the business and burning for another title. It helps his cause that the raucous Breslin Center provides one of the best home-court advantages in the nation.

WHAT SCARES US: The Spartans start with the same personnel and problems that plagued them last year. This team still has holes at point guard and power forward, although the arrival of Neitzel and Marquise Gray should help at those positions, respectively. The biggest concern is inside, where Michigan State still is missing a proven running mate for Davis. Erazem Lorbek's early

defection to Europe forced Izzo to play a four-guard lineup much of last year. As a result, MSU's rebounding—the rock on which Izzo built his championship run-sank from its perennial top-of-theleague perch to an unheard-of eighth. That meant almost no easy buckets on the offensive boards. Gray or a face from the existing cast—Delco Rowley or Drew Naymick—must step up. Perimeter defense was porous last season. Once opponents got into the paint, they too often enjoyed a clear path to the rim or dished to open teammates deserted as their defender left to give help. Whether it's through effort or scheme, Izzo, a strict man-to-man disciple, must find a way to shore up his outer walls. Perhaps the biggest obstacle is upstairs. Hill, Anderson and Torbert have chased a championshipwith the fire-breathing Izzo at their backs-for three seasons. The trio wants desperately to live up to the legacy left by Mateen Cleaves and Co., who won four straight Big Ten titles and reached three straight Final Fours. They came agonizingly close last year, blowing their chance to drop a banner (it was ready and waiting in the rafters) with a last-second home loss to nemesis Wisconsin. Will they ever get over the hump?

X-FACTOR: Neitzel, who shoots with either hand, reminds some of old-school Spartan star Scott Skiles. Last spring, Neitzel tantalized MSU fans with a spectacular 36-point performance in the semifinals of the state high school tournament played at the sold-out Breslin Center. Though his team lost, Neitzel single-handedly kept it in the game against powerful Detroit Renaissance, which boasted McDonald's All-Americans Malik Hairston (Oregon) and Joe Crawford (Kentucky). Neitzel displayed the pure point guard skills and mental toughness this team needs desperately. The question: How quickly will Izzo hand Neitzel the keys to the green machine? If Neitzel proves he can steer solo, it would allow Anderson and Hill to play their natural positions (forward and shooting guard, respectively) and solve a multitude of issues for the Spartans.



A BIG TEN COACH SAYS:

They have tough kids. They're very difficult to defend because Alan Anderson is an impossible matchup for most teams: a three playing the four. With Paul Davis, they've got the best center in the league. But I don't see them trying to play two true bigs; when you talk about winning the Big Ten, you're going to do it with what they had on the floor last year. I like Drew Neitzel; I think he will be a solid contributor. But all Big Ten coaches go with their experience first. If you play Neitzel, who do you sit? It would have to be a very good player.

SPARTANS DATA

Coach: Tom Izzo (207-90, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 19-6; won NCAA title

Assistant coaches: Mark Montgomery (3 years), Dwayne Stephens (1), Doug Wojcik (1).

2003-04 record: 18-12. Big Ten: 12-4/T2nd. Lost to Nevada in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1997.

Site: East Lansing, Mich. Website: www.msuspartans.com

Home court: Breslin Center (14,759).

DOSTED

TU	<u> </u>	CH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	tarter					
No.	Pos	. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
13	G	Maurice Ager	6-4/190	Jr.	8.5	3.2	0.7	38.7	70.5	34.9
15	F	Alan Anderson*	6-6/220	Sr.	8.1	3.1	3.2	46.7	80.5	35.4
30	G	Tim Bograkos	6-2/195	Sr.	0.9	0.8	0.4	54.2	33.3	20.0
3	G	Shannon Brown*	6-3/200	So.	7.9	2.5	1.3	45.1	80.7	34.1
40	C	Paul Davis*	6-11/250	Jr.	15.8	6.2	2.0	56.8	79.9	33.3
42	F	Marquise Gray	6-8/215	Fr.	Outst	andin	g rebou	nder pro	vides de	pth.
22	G	Anthony Hamo	6-2/210	So	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	-	-
43	F	Andy Harvey	6-5/220	Jr.	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	-	-
5	G	Chris Hill*	6-3/190	Sr.	13.8	2.8	3.9	50.0	75.4	45.4
00	C	Idong Ibok	6-10/260	Fr.	Has a	II the	tools bu	it lacks e	xperienc	e.
34	C	Drew Naymick	6-10/235	So.	0.6	1.0	0.1	40.0	83.3	_
12	G	Drew Neitzel	6-0/170	Fr.	Name	d Mic	higan's	Mr. Bask	etball.	
50	F	Delco Rowley	6-8/250	So.	1.2	1.1	0.1	53.8	60.0	-
14	(Goran Suton	6-10/250	Fr.	Big-n	nan is	well-ro	unded of	fensive t	threat.
23	G	Kelvin Torbert*	6-4/215	Sr.	10.7	3.6	2.0	53.4	80.0	48.4
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	Jas	on Andreas	6-10/250	2.8	2.	3	0.5	55.1	90.0	-

3. Wisconsin

WHAT WE LIKE: In his first three seasons in Madison, Bo Ryan has distinguished himself as one of the best coaches in the Big Ten. Last year, he guided the Badgers to a conference tournament title and a third straight NCAA appearance while upping his league home record to 24-0. This year, Ryan has even bigger ideas. Wisconsin has four players 6-9 or taller, including 6-11 Brian Butch, a McDonald's All-American who redshirted last year to add size (35 pounds) and strength. Sizable contributions also will be made by 6-8 seniors Mike Wilkinson, the Badgers' top returning scorer and rebounder, and Zach Morley, a smooth swingman.

WHAT SCARES US: Point guard Devin Harris, who was last season's conference player of the year, skipped his senior season to become the No. 5 overall pick in the NBA draft. With Harris, Wisconsin would have made the short list of Final Four contenders. Without him, the Badgers must find a new leader. Other concerns include the health of Alando Tucker and Sharif Chambliss. Tucker, a sophomore forward, missed all but four games last year with a foot injury and was granted a medical redshirt. Chambliss, a sharp-shooting transfer from Penn State, tore his ACL in one of last season's final practices and underwent major surgery.

X-FACTOR: Can Boo Wade, Kammron Taylor and/or Chambliss fill Harris' hightops? Ryan has forged his success on defense and taking care of the ball, and his Badgers led the league in turnover margin each of the last two years. If the guards cough up the ball, Ryan's swing offense will sputter, regardless of how many big men are looming inside.

SCHEDULE

N20 Pennsylvania	D4 at Rutgers	D23 UNC Greensboro	J8 at Indiana	J25 Illinois	F9 Iowa	F27 at Ohio St.
N23 UC Santa Barbara	D7 Wisconsin-Green Bay	D27 Western Carolina	J11 Ohio St.	J29 at Penn St.	F12 at Illinois	M1 or M2 Indiana
N27 at Pepperdine	D11 at Marquette	D29 Alabama	J16 Michigan St.	F2 Northwestern	F16 Michigan	M5 or M6 Purdue
N30 Maryland	D15 Wisconsin-Milwaukee	J5 at Purdue	J22 at Michigan	F5 at Minnesota	F24 at Michigan St.	

4. Michigan

WHAT WE LIKE: This is a stable of young, explosive athletes who led the Wolverines to the NIT championship last season. Michigan led the Big Ten in rebounding and was second in blocked shots, thanks to long leapers like Courtney Sims, Brent Petway, Lester Abram and Chris Hunter. Sims, who led the league in blocks (68), is a budding star. Petway is a jumping jack with improving skills, and Abram is a dead-eye shooter from the wing and the line. The backcourt is solid with Dion Harris and Daniel Horton. This team has as much talent as any in the league. Now it also has tasted winning.

WHAT SCARES US: Tommy Amaker's offensive plan, or lack thereof. Amaker wants flow and freedom. That's fine. But too often last season the Wolverines looked disorganized and poorly coached, trying to
play one-on-one and tossing up ill-advised shots. Specifically,
Michigan must get the ball inside to Sims. If they do, Sims can create
open looks on the perimeter and make Michigan a consistent offensive force. The Wolverines will miss the leadership of Bernard
Robinson, who provided much of the glue that held them together.

X-FACTOR: Horton must regain the form that earned him Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors in 2002-03. Although he rallied during the team's NIT run, Horton didn't penetrate enough, shot poorly and made bad decisions (his 1.18 assist-to-turnover ratio was one of the worst among league guards). The former McDonald's All-American is a special talent who can help Michigan return to league power status if he makes better choices.

SCHEDULE

N15-26 Preseason NIT D7 High Point	D29 Delaware St.	J12 Northwestern	J27 at Michigan St.	F8 Illinois	F23 Penn St.
N19 Sacramento St. D11 South Florida	D31 UNC Asheville	J15 at Penn St.	J30 at Purdue	F12 Michigan St.	F26 at Northwestern
N30 at Georgia Tech D14 Boston University	J5 at lowa	J19 at Indiana	F2 Minnesota	F16 at Wisconsin	M5 or M6 lowa
D4 Notre Dame D18 at UCLA	J8 Fairfield	J22 Wisconsin	F5 at Ohio State	F20 Indiana	

BADGERS DATA

Coach: Bo Ryan (68-28, 3 years; 98-55 overall, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 4-3). Assistant coaches: Greg Gard (3 years), Rob Jeter (3), Gary Close (1). 2003-04 record: 25-7. Big Ten: 12-4/2nd. Lost to Pittsburgh in NCAA East Rutherford Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1998.

Site: Madison, Wis. Website: www.uwbadgers.com
Home court: Kohl Center (17,142).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
32	F/C	Brian Butch	6-11/240	Fr.	Redsh	nirted	in 2003	-04 to ge	et strong	er.
1	G	Sharif Chambliss	6-1/185	Sr.	Penn	State	transfe	er is elig	ible to	play.
5	F/C	Jason Chappell	6-10/240	So.	Medic	cal red	shirt in	2003-04	(foot).	
22	G	Michael Flowers	6-2/185	Fr.	Fierce	playe	r; limite	d by ank	de injury	last year
13	G	Clayton Hanson	6-5/195	Sr.	4.8	1.6	0.8	37.4	61.9	38.2
21	C	Andreas Helmigk	6-9/245	Sr.	2.7	1.5	0.5	43.2	43.8	50.0
44	F	Zach Morley	6-8/220	Sr.	8.9	5.8	1.7	48.1	74.6	30.4
4	F	Ray Nixon	6-8/215	Jr.	3.1	1.6	0.3	46.7	64.7	40.0
34	C	Greg Stiemsma	6-11/245	Fr.	Avera	ged 8	.3 rpg, 4	.1 bpg h	is senio	year.
23	G	Kammron Taylor	6-2/175	So.	1.2	0.1	0.1	36.8	83.3	25.0
42	F	Alando Tucker	6-5/205	So.	Grant	ted a	medica	I hardst	ip in 20	03-04.
12	G	Boo Wade*	6-3/190	Jr.	6.8	3.4	2.6	41.8	76.2	17.6
54	F	Mike Wilkinson*	6-8/240	Sr.	13.1	6.8	1.9	49.1	74.4	34.6
33	G/F	DeAaron Williams	6-4/190	Fr.	Outst	andin	g athlet	e who hi	igh jump	ped 6-9.
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	Da	de Usede*	6 3/105	10 E	- 1	2	4.4	45.0	70.7	272

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Devin Harris*	6-3/185	19.5	4.3	4.4	45.9	79.2	37.3
C	Dave Mader*	6-11/255	2.4	2.5	0.3	45.3	50.0	_
G	Freddie Owens*	6-2/185	6.5	2.8	0.9	40.1	56.4	26.8

WOLVERINES DATA

Coach: Tommy Amaker (51-42, 3 years; 119-97 overall, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 2-1).

Assistant coaches: Charles Ramsey (3 years), Chuck Swenson (3), Andrew Moore (2).

2003-04 record: 23-11. Big Ten: 8-8/T5th. Beat Rutgers in NIT championship game.

Last regular-season title: 1986. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Ann Arbor, Mich. Website: www.mgoblue.com

Home court: Crisler Arena (13,751).

ROSTER

						_		_	_
*200	3-04 starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos, Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
2	G/F Lester Abram	6-6/200	Jr.	13.1	4.2	1.3	49.0	84.3	41.2
11	G/F John Andrews	6-5/205	So.	0.4	0.3	0.0	33.3	_	50.0
50	C Amadou Ba	6-10/250	So.	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-	_
12	G Ashtyn Bell	6-0/165	Jr.	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	_
25	F/C Graham Brown*	6-9/255	Jr.	4.6	4.1	0.4	51.7	57.1	-
24	G/F Ronald Coleman	6-6/210	Fr.	A har	d wor	ker with	great sh	nooting t	ouch.
22	G Sherrod Harrell	6-3/200	Jr.	0.2	0.6	0.1	9.1	50.0	11.1
5	G Dion Harris*	6-3/205	So.	10.1	2.2	2.2	39.3	77.2	34.1
4	G Daniel Horton*	6-3/200	Jr.	12.2	2.9	3.6	36.6	70.5	34.2
31	F/C Chris Hunter	6-11/215	Jr.	5.0	3.4	0.5	50.0	80.4	36.4
32	F J.C. Mathis	6-8/235	Sr.	3.8	3.8	0.8	47.7	33.3	28.6
23	F Brent Petway	6-8/205	So.	3.9	3.4	0.2	66.3	56.3	-
44	F/C Courtney Sims*	6-11/230	So.	7.7	4.7	0.5	54.7	57.8	12.5
3	G Dani Wohl	5-11/180	Jr.	0.3	0.1	0.1	33.3	0.0	-
KE	LOSSES								
Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G/F	Bernard Robinson*	6-6/208	12.1	5	.7	3.8	43.2	77.0	25.0

Indiana

WHAT WE LIKE: Hoosiers star guard Bracey Wright has bulked up and put nagging back problems behind him. He hopes to do the same with Indiana's first losing season since 1969-70. Wright figures to have something he didn't last year-help inside. The school lost big-man recruit Robert Rothbart, but it still has heralded forward D.J. White headlining a top-notch class. White as well as newcomer guards Robert Vaden and A.J. Ratliff and forward James Hardy all should make immediate impacts—two of them could even start. Beyond Wright and Marshall Strickland, veterans such as Donald Perry and Ryan Tapak solidify a deep backcourt.

WHAT SCARES US: Indiana is young and inexperienced, especially up front. That doesn't bode well for a team that struggled to rebound a year ago. In addition to all of the new players, coach Mike Davis also must break in two new assistant coaches. Unfortunately for Davis, the Indiana faithful aren't known for patience. What's more, the Hoosiers face a brutal nonleague schedule. If the freshmen flop and this team tumbles again, look out below.

X-FACTOR: A lot depends on how quickly and effectively the fab freshmen mesh with veterans Wright—who probably is playing his last season for the Hoosiers-and Strickland. If that dynamic junior duo, which took 41 percent of Indiana's shots last year, shows leadership and shares the basketball, the Hoosiers could return to the NCAA Tournament. But if Wright and Strickland play selfishly, the fans at Assembly Hall may see red again.

HOOSIERS DATA

Coach: Mike Davis (81-53, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 6-3).

Assistant coaches: Thad Fitzpatrick (2 years), Kerry Rupp (1st), Donnie

Marsh (1st)

2003-04 record: 14-15. Big Ten: 7-9/T7th. Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Bloomington, Ind. Website: www.iuhoosiers.com

Home court: Assembly Hall (17,456).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
0	F	Pat Ewing Jr.	6-8/215	So.	2.8	3.6	0.2	52.5	48.1	1.00
2	F	James Hardy	6-7/185	Fr.	Versa	tile at	hlete al	so is a fo	otball st	andout.
21	G	Mark Johnson	6-2/190	Sr.	4.1	0.1	0.3	45.5	1.00	42.9
23	F	Sean Kline	6-8/235	Jr.	7.1	4.0	0.8	50.0	71.7	0.0
12	G	Donald Perry*	6-2/185	Sr.	3.3	1.7	2.4	28.0	66.7	27.8
20	G	A.J. Ratliff	6-2/180	Fr.	Athle	tic en	ough to	play bot	th guard	spots.
33	F	Mike Roberts	6-9/220	Sr.	1.6	0.9	0.1	48.4	41.7	0.0
	C	Lucas Steijn	6-10/230	Fr.	A late	signe	e from	The Neth	nerlands	
22	G	Marshall Strickland	* 6-2/195	Jr.	10.8	3.2	2.7	33.6	77.2	36.7
11	G	Errek Suhr	5-8/160	So.	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.0	_	0.0
34	G	Ryan Tapak	6-2/180	Sr.	3.4	2.5	2.0	31.1	57.1	28.8
24	G/F	Robert Vaden	6-5/200	Fr.	Athle	tic w	ing play	yer who	can sho	oot.
3	F	D.J. White	6-9/230	Fr.	Low-	post	present	ce who	can ban	g.
10	G	Roderick Wilmont	6-4/205	So.	3.3	2.5	0.3	29.2	40.0	25.8
4	G	Bracey Wright*	6-3/200	Jr.	18.5	5.4	2.4	37.4	78.9	34.3
KEY	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	Ge	orge Leach*	6-11/240	9.1	5.	.5	0.5	48.6	69.4	-
G	A.I	Move*	6-3/215	10.0	6	4	15	46.7	727	37.8

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	George Leach*	6-11/240	9.1	5.5	0.5	48.6	69.4	-
G	A.J. Moye*	6-3/215	10.0	6.4	1.5	46.7	72.7	37.8

SCHEDULE

N23	Indiana State	D11	Kentucky	D28	Ball State	15	at Northwestern	J22	Ohio State	F6	at Illinois	F22	Purdue
D1	North Carolina		at Louisville		at Indianapolis	J8	Wisconsin	J26	at Minnesota	F12	Minnesota	F27	Michigan State
D4	at Connecticut	D19	at Missouri	D31	Oral Roberts	J15	at Purdue	J29	at lowa	F15	at Ohio State	M1	at Wisconsin
D8	Notre Dame	D22	Charlotte	12	Furman	J19	Michigan	F2	Penn State	F20	at Michigan	M5	Northwestern

Іоша

WHAT WE LIKE: Jeff Horner, Pierre Pierce and Greg Brunner form a solid core for coach Steve Alford. Horner is one of the best allaround players in the league. Pierce, a slasher, is the Big Ten's secondleading returning scorer, and Brunner is the leading returning rebounder. Last season, the trio proved it could keep Iowa in games. The Hawkeyes are a gritty bunch who managed to rank second in conference rebounding despite the loss of such big men as Jared Reiner and Sean Sonderleiter. Iowa has restocked its bench after defections, academic woes and injuries reduced them to seven scholarship players a year ago. Freshman Alex Thompson should help inside.

WHAT SCARES US: Turnovers, particularly from Pierce. Beyond Brunner, there are mostly questions inside. Erek Hansen is a stringy shot blocker who must get stronger to score and rebound. Free throw shooting also needs to improve to win close games. Last year, Iowa led the league in free throw attempts but converted just 67 percent. Pressure is mounting on Alford, who's under contract until 2009 but has managed just one winning Big Ten record in five years and hasn't made the NCAA Tournament since 2001.

X-FACTORS: Incoming transfers Adam Haluska and Doug Thomas. Haluska cut across corn country from Iowa State, where he averaged 9.2 points and made the Big 12 All-Freshman team in 2003. Haluska is a sharpshooter and improving penetrator who could give the Hawkeyes an impressive three-guard look. Thomas, a JC transfer, is a raw talent who will remind some of former Iowa star Reggie Evans.

HAWKEYES DATA

Coach: Steve Alford (89-71, 5 years; 167-119 overall, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 3-2).

Assistant coaches: Brian Jones (5 years), Greg Lansing (5), Craig Neal (1st). 2003-04 record: 16-13. Big Ten: 9-7/4th. Lost to Saint Louis in NIT first round. Last regular-season title: 1979 (tie).

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: lowa City, lowa. Website: www.hawkeyesports.com

Home court: Carver-Hawkeye Arena (15,500).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names:	projected 2004	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G/F	J.R. Angle	6-7/205	Fr.	A pur	e shoo	ter wit	h excelle	ent range	
5	G	Jack Brownlee	6-0/165	Sr.	0.4	0.3	0.3	33.3	50.0	0.0
44	F	Greg Brunner*	6-7/240	Jr.	10.9	8.2	1.5	54.9	55.7	35.3
53	C	Seth Gorney	7-0/245	Fr.	Shot	75.3 F	G% last	year; ne	eds expe	erience.
1	G	Adam Haluska	6-5/210	So.	Avera	ged 9	.2 ppg	at lowa	State i	n '02-03
34	C	Erek Hansen	6-11/210	Jr.	2.1	2.1	0.3	41.5	25.0	-
35	G	Mike Henderson	6-2/190	So.	3.2	1.8	1.3	37.9	52.6	0.0
2	G	Jeff Horner*	6-3/185	Jr.	13.0	5.3	4.2	44.0	86.0	42.5
3	G	Pierre Pierce*	6-4/195	Jr.	16.1	5.7	3.7	47.8	57.4	25.5
25	G	Carlton Reed	6-4/180	Fr.	Name	d low	a's Mr. I	Basketba	Il last se	ason.
23	F	Doug Thomas	6-8/245	Jr.	Athle	tic JC r	ecruit l	hits the b	ooards ha	ard.
11	F	Alex Thompson	6-9/215	Fr.	Versa	tile pla	yer wi	th a stroi	ng work	ethic.
13	F	Justin Wieck	6-6/185	Jr.	Walk-	on pro	ovides l	ench de	pth.	
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Bro	dy Boyd*	5-11/165	11.1	2.	0	1.9	41.8	83.8	35.8
C	Jan	ed Reiner	6-11/255	10.5	7.	2	1.5	44.8	67.1	2
F	Gle	n Worley*	6-7/218	8.1	4.	5	1.2	41.3	75.0	36.2

SCHEDULE

N19 Western Illinois	D7 Northern Iowa	D21 Texas Tech	J5 Michigan	J22 Purdue	F9 at Wisconsin	F23 at Minnesota
N22-24 Maui Invitational	D10 Iowa State	at Chicago	J8 at Ohio St.	J26 at Northwestern	F12 Northwestern	F26 at Penn St.
N30 at Drake	D18 Western Carolina	D28 Air Force	J15 Minnesota	J29 Indiana	F16 at Purdue	M2 Ohio St.
D3-4 Hawkeye Challenge		D31 Saint Louis	J20 at Illinois	F5 Michigan St.	F19 Illinois	M5 or M6 at Michigan

7. Purdue

WHAT WE LIKE: This is a backcourt that should meet the demanding defensive standards of hard-to-please coach Gene Keady. Brandon McKnight, the point guard, and David Teague, a lithe shooting guard, are ballhawks who like to play Keady's intense style. But both must step up their point production if Purdue hopes to rise from the pack. Under Keady, who enters his final season, the Boilermakers always compete hard enough to stay in games, especially at home. They'll have the added incentive of trying to send their longtime coach out as a winner before he hands the reins to assistant Matt Painter, the former Southern Illinois coach.

WHAT SCARES US: Purdue lost some key players, including twotime conference Defensive Player of the Year Kenneth Lowe. The frontcourt was hit hardest. Forward Matt Kiefer will be leaned on heavily, and Keady must try to plug holes in the paint with promising but unproven Ije Nwankwo and junior college transfers Carl Landry and Gary Ware. Purdue ranked near the bottom of the league in rebounding last year, and it's tough to see that improving. Scoring, especially in the clutch, is a major question for a team that lost seven games by two points or less. Who will step up?

X-FACTOR: Kiefer is an athletic big man who has shown streaks of brilliance in his first two seasons. Now, the Boilermakers need more. Kiefer, who possesses good post moves and a smooth shooting touch, must make the leap from role player to star. If he can, Purdue will hold its own. If not, Keady's final season might get ugly.

BOILERMAKERS DATA

Coach: Gene Keady (505-249, 24 years; 543-268 overall, 26 years; NCAA Tournament 20-18).

Assistant coaches: Cuonzo Martin (4), Matt Painter (1st), Paul Lusk (1st). 2003-04 record: 17-14. Big Ten: 7-9/T7th. Lost to Notre Dame in NIT first

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: West Lafayette, Ind. Website: www.purduesports.com

Home court: Mackey Arena (14,123).

ROSTER

-										
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pro	jected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
32	F	Matt Carroll	6-8/233	Jr.	0.6	0.7	0.2	27.3	57.1	0.0
5	G	Bryant Dillon	6-6/178	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	can sho	ot and p	lay the p	oint.
4	G	Andrew Ford	6-2/197	Sr.	0.5	0.2	0.1	37.5	100.0	50.0
30	G	Chris Hartley	6-4/185	So.	0.8	0.4	_	16.7	100.0	0.0
42	F	Matt Kiefer*	6-10/225	Jr.	6.5	3.4	0.9	47.6	55.6	12.5
14	F	Carl Landry	6-7/235	Jr.	One	of nat	ion's to	p JC tra	insfers.	
44	G/F	Adam Liddell	6-7/205	Fr.	A pro	ject w	ho reds	hirted to	mature	
10	G	Brandon McKnight*	6-2/183	Sr.	9.0	2.6	2.8	40.1	69.6	27.3
21	F	lie Nwankwo	6-7/260	So.	2.5	1.4	0.5	35.3	74.3	0.0
3	G	Xavier Price	6-3/200	Fr.	Note	d for h	ard wo	rk and de	efense.	
2	G	David Teague*	6-5/183	Jr.	11.5	5.2	0.8	40.4	71.4	37.6
33	F	Gary Ware	6-9/215	Jr.	Wiry	JC trai	nsfer is	athletic	shot bloc	ker.
KEY	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Chi	ris Booker	6-10/247	9.4	5	.6	1.6	52.3	72.2	-
G/F	Me	lvin Buckley	6-7/200	5.4	2	.5	0.9	29.5	87.1	30.2
F	Bre	ett Buscher	6-8/247	7.5	3	.4	0.6	54.0	70.0	50.0
C	Iva	n Kartelo*	6-11/235	5.7	6	0.0	1.0	55.7	63.6	_
G	Ke	nneth Lowe*	6-3/197	13.3	3	2	22	41 4	86.6	38.6

35.5

3.8

82.5

17.6

SCHEDULE

N19 at Miami (Ohio)	N29 at N.C. State	D18 Evansville	J5 Wisconsin	J18 at Michigan St.	F2 at Ohio St.	F19 Michigan St.	M5 or M6 at Wisconsin
N23 Detroit	D3 Memphis	at Indianapolis	J8 Illinois	J22 at lowa	F5 at Northwestern	F22 at Indiana	
N27 Cincinnati	D8 Oklahoma	D30 Baylor	J12 at Minnesota	J26 Wisconsin-Milwaukee	F9 Penn St.	F26 Minnesota	
at Indianapolis	D11 Colorado St.	J2 Eastern Illinois	J15 Indiana	J30 Michigan	F16 lowa	M1 or M2 at Illinois	

Northwestern

WHAT WE LIKE: There is momentum in Evanston after the Wildcats posted their best Big Ten finish in 35 years. Bill Carmody was deservedly named coach of the year. With its slow-down, spread-'emout offense and stingy zone defense, Northwestern is no longer a sure "W." Forward Vedran Vukusic is a heady perimeter player who drains open 3-pointers. Point guard T.J. Parker is a solid ballhandler who helped the Wildcats rank near the top of the league in turnover margin. Mohamed Hachad and Davor Duvancic are capable wing men. Transfers Mike Thompson (Duke) and Tim Doyle (St. John's) should pitch in right away.

WHAT SCARES US: The loss of guard Jitim Young, who was Northwestern's Mr. Everything last year. The first-team all-conference pick seemed to be everywhere all the time. The Wildcats didn't score many points, even with Young. The bigger question is, can Northwestern continue to defend without him? Northwestern lives by the 3-pointer. There's almost no interior presence offensively. Because of their style of play, the Wildcats don't rebound or get to the foul line much. When they do, they miss too often.

X-FACTOR: Can Carmody's crew do any damage outside the cozy confines of Welsh-Ryan Arena? That's the next step Northwestern must take if it hopes to escape the Big Ten basement on a consistent basis and challenge for its first-ever NCAA Tournament bid. How bad was it last year? Just four of the Wildcats' 14 victories were recorded on the road.

WILDCATS DATA

Austin Parkinson

Coach: Bill Carmody (53-64, 4 years; 145-89 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

6-0/197

Assistant coaches: Paul Lee (4 years), Mitch Henderson (4), Craig Robinson (4). 2003-04 record: 14-15. Big Ten: 8-8/T5th.

Last regular-season title: 1933. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Evanston, III. Website: www.nusports.com

Home court: Welsh-Ryan Arena (8,117).

ROSTER

No.	Pos	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
00		Tim Doyle	6-4/220	So.				hn's is a	5.000	
31	F	Davor Duvancic*	6-8/220	Sr.	6.3	2.8	2.2	45.0	62.2	32.8
34	G	Josh Grier	6-1/190	Jr.	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.0	50.0	0.0
14	G	Mohamed Hachad*		Jr.	8.3	3.7	2.3	41.7	58.2	26.0
5	G	Michael Jenkins	5-9/165	Sr.	0.3	0.4	0.2	33.3	0.0	33.3
2	G	Joe Kennedy	5-10/190	Jr.	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0
22	G	Brandon Lee	6-1/175	Fr.	Shut-	down	defend	er has a	versatile	game.
21	G/F	Gary Lee	6-6/190	Fr.	Solid	shoot	er from	Flint, Mie	ch.	
1	G	T.J. Parker*	6-2/165	Jr.	8.8	2.8	4.0	37.6	76.5	25.5
52	C	Vince Scott	6-10/220	So.	1.6	1.1	0.4	33.3	25.0	28.0
24	G	Evan Seacat	6-3/165	Jr.	5.7	1.4	0.9	35.5	78.6	34.7
3	C	Mike Thompson	6-10/245	Jr.	Duke	trans	fer was	McDona	ıld's All-	America
10	C	Ivan Tolic	6-9/255	So.	0.7	1.5	0.7	26.3	42.9	16.7
11	F	Vedran Vukusic*	6-8/230	Jr.	14.3	4.3	2.9	45.1	76.5	38.3
32	G/F	Sterling Williams	6-5/185	Fr.	First	Chicag	o Public	League	signee s	ince '79.
KE	Y LC	SSES								
D			HA MILL	nne	DI		ADC	FFO/	ETO/	20/

17.9

6.0

SCHEDI II E

N19-21 Top of the World Classic	D15 DePaul	D27 Delaware St.	J12 at Michigan	J29 Ohio St.	F12 at lowa	M2 Michigan St.
N28 at Colorado	D18 Seton Hall	D31 Texas-Pan American	J15 Illinois	F2 at Wisconsin	F19 Penn St.	M5 at Indiana
D1 Virginia	D20 at Arizona St.	J5 Indiana	J22 at Penn St.	F5 Purdue	F23 at Illinois	
D4 Chicago St.	D22 Robert Morris	J8 at Michigan St.	J26 Iowa	F9 at Minnesota	F26 Michigan	

Jitim Young*

53.4 64.7

9. Ohio State

WHAT WE LIKE: There's talent amid the turmoil that coach Thad Matta inherits. Terence Dials is an athletic force in the paint. Despite their struggles last season, guards Tony Stockman and J.J. Sullinger can score. That trio, plus guard Brandon Fuss-Cheatham, is anxiously awaiting the up-tempo style Matta promised to bring from Xavier. Keep an eye on newcomer Jamar Butler, who won Mr. Basketball honors in Ohio. Ohio State also will enjoy the requisite optimism of a fresh start after ranking as one of the Big Ten's biggest disappointments last season.

WHAT SCARES US: The specter of NCAA sanctions after former coach Jim O'Brien was fired for admitting he gave \$6,000 to a recruit. The school also faces allegations of improper payments, contact with agents and academic fraud, all of which could cripple the program. On the court, the Buckeyes lack size inside and leadership on the perimeter. Stockman was OSU's leading scorer, but he's a streaky shooter who too often plays out of control. Will his decision making—and that of his teammates—improve when Matta punches the fast-forward button? Ivan Harris, a former McDonald's All-American, must step up after flopping as a freshman.

X-FACTOR: Matta must create chemistry, a commodity that was in short supply last season. More importantly, he must do what O'Brien couldn't: convince this crew to play defense. So far, Matta has adjusted his coaching style to fit his teams' talent. He wants to run. But if the Buckeyes can't handle it, he'll have to adapt quickly.

BUCKEYES DATA

Coach: Thad Matta (1st year; 102-31 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 6-4). Assistant coaches: John Groce (1st year), Alan Major (1st), Dan Peters (1st).

2003-04 record: 14-16. Big Ten: 6-10/9th. Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Columbus, Ohio. Website: www.ohiostatebuckeyes.com

Home court: Value City Arena (19,200).

ROSTER

Vo.	Dac	Name	He Alle	es.	DDC	DDC	ADC	Troi	PTO/	201
			Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
15	G	Ricardo Billings	6-3/210	Jr.	3.8	2.0	0.8	37.9	64.0	33.3
14	G	Jamar Butler	6-2/190	Fr.	High-	power	ed scor	ing threa	at at poin	nt guard
2	G	B. Fuss-Cheatham*	6-1/200	Sr.	5.4	1.9	2.4	39.0	60.6	26.3
34	F/C	Terence Dials*	6-9/250	Jr.	10.4	6.6	1.1	50.5	71.7	_
23	G	Je'Kel Foster	6-3/205	Jr.	2004	Florida	JC Play	er of the	e Year.	
3	F	Ivan Harris	6-8/220	So.	3.4	1.7	0.2	45.8	66.7	43.8
4	C	Matt Marinchick	6-10/260	Sr.	1.4	0.7	0.1	66.7	43.8	0.0
13	G	Ugo Nwankwo	6-2/185	Jr.	1.8	1.1	0.5	41.4	83.3	25.0
0	G	Tony Stockman*	6-1/180	Sr.	13.6	2.6	2.6	38.1	79.3	36.1
0	G	J.J. Sullinger*	6-5/200	Jr.	10.1	4.6	1.2	44.4	52.1	34.3
10	F	Matt Sylvester	6-7/205	Jr.	3.1	1.4	0.9	37.0	83.3	26.3
12	F/C	Matt Terwilliger	6-8/215	Fr.	Versa	tile big	man c	an score	inside a	nd out.
21	F	J. Jackson-Wilson	6-7/220	Fr.	Prep	olaver	who is	tremen	dous at	hlete.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Nick Dials	6-1/175	4.5	1.4	2.1	36.4	88.0	36.6	
F	Shun Jenkins	6-6/240	2.2	2.8	0.2	40.3	37.1	_	
C	Velimir Radinovic*	7-0/250	10.3	6.0	0.8	65.3	69.7	_	

SCHEDULE

N15-24 Guardians Classic	D11 Portland St.	D22 Mercer	J8 Iowa	J22 at Indiana	F5 Michigan	M5 or M6 Illinois
N19 Delaware	D16 Texas Tech	D28 New Hampshire	J11 at Wisconsin	J26 Penn St.	F19 at Minnesota	
N27 Chattanooga	at Dallas	D31 Saint Joseph's	J15 at LSU	J29 at Northwestern	F27 Wisconsin	
D1 at Clemson	D19 Morehead St.	J5 at Illinois	J19 Minnesota	F2 Purdue	M2 at lowa	

10. Minnesota

WHAT WE LIKE: Well, last season is over. Despite the dominance of star forward Kris Humphries (the first freshman to lead the Big Ten in scoring and rebounding), coach Dan Monson's rebuilding plan took a major step backward during a brutal year. Monson, who endured his share of abuse, is back. But the good news—maybe—is that nearly all his players are gone. Humphries, as expected, left for the NBA and just about everyone else either exhausted eligibility or transferred. Adam Boone is the lone starter left standing. He'll be joined by 11 newcomers, including six true freshmen. Boston College transfer Dan Coleman is the heir apparent to Humphries, his former high school teammate. Minnesota fans only can hope an overhaul helps air out last season's stink from Williams Arena.

WHAT SCARES US: With so many new faces, chemistry could be a problem. Aside from Boone, the other letterwinners include former walk-on Jeff Hagen, Brent Lawson and Aaron Robinson. Never heard of them? You're forgiven. Though Humphries shot early and often, he gave the Gophers a formidable offensive weapon. How they plan to score this season is a mystery, though Monson's teams generally produce points. But the defense has to tighten. The Gophers surrendered more points than anybody in the league a year ago

X-FACTOR: Monson will have to blend a bunch of freshmen, including Minnesota Mr. Basketball Spencer Tollackson, into a competitive Big Ten team. That's something he couldn't do last season, even with the phenomenally talented Humphries.

GOLDEN GOPHERS DATA

Coach: Dan Monson (79-75, 5 years; 131-92 overall, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 3-1).

Assistant coaches: Bill Walker (5 years), Vic Couch (2), Jim Molinari (1st).

2003-04 record: 12-18. Big Ten: 3-13/10th. Last regular-season title: 1997.

Last NCAA appearance: 1999.
Site: Minneapolis. Website: www.gophersports.com

Home court: Williams Arena (14,625).

RO	ST	ER								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
31	G	Adam Boone*	6-3/197	Sr.	8.4	3.3	4.1	36.3	76.7	28.9
13	F	Dan Coleman	6-9/215	Fr.	Trans	sfer fro	om Bo	ston Col	llege is	eligible.
15		Vincent Grier	6-5/200	Jr.	JC tr	ansfer	who I	olays go	od defe	nse.
42	C	Jeff Hagen	7-0/262	Sr.	4.3	3.6	1.3	47.4	68.3	_
34	G	Brent Lawson	6-4/208	Sr.	1.5	1.2	0.7	47.4	36.4	23.1
5	G/F	Alex Popp	6-5/200	Fr.	A wa	k-on v	vith gr	eat shoo	ting rang	ge.
32	F	Zach Puchtel	6-5/235	Jr.	Form	er Han	vard fo	otball pl	ayer is a	walk-on.
3	G	Aaron Robinson	5-10/175	Sr.	2.6	1.1	1.4	32.5	75.0	29.5
2	G	Ryan Saunders	6-1/165	Fr.	Walk-	on is s	on of h	VBA coad	ch Flip Sa	aunders.
21	F	J'son Stamper	6-6/225	Jr.	Natio	n's fou	rth-rar	ked reb	ounder a	t JC level.
50	F	Spencer Tollackson	6-9/250	Fr.	Name	ed Min	nesota	's Mr. Ba	sketball I	last year.
24	G	Rico Tucker	6-0/180	Fr.	Incre	dibly q	uick po	int guar	d.	
1	G	Miles Webb	6-3/185	Fr.	Comb	o guar	d who	can scor	re from a	nywhere.
30	F	Jonathan Williams	6-9/260	Fr.					ays home	
33	F	Kerry Wooldridge	6-8/205	Fr.	Redsh	nirted i	n 2003	-04; ver	satile pla	iyer.
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nai		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Mic	thael Bauer*	6-8/220	8.2	5.	1	1.3	37.7	77.1	28.7
F	Sta	n Gaines*	6-7/230	5.5	3.	2	1.5	48.3	63.2	26.9
F	Kris	Humphries*	6-8/240	21.7	10	1	0.7	44.4	742	340

6-3/185

SCHEDULE

N21 Lipscomb	D8 at Nebraska	D29 UNC Greensboro J1 Coppin St. J3 Loyola Marymount	J12 Purdue	J26 Indiana	F9 Northwestern	F23 Iowa
N24-27 Gr. Alaska Shootout	D11 Central Michigan		J15 at lowa	J29 at Illinois	F12 at Indiana	F26 at Purdue
N30 Florida St.	D15 Chicago St.		J19 at Ohio St.	F2 at Michigan	F16 at Michigan St.	M2 at Penn St.
D4 Holy Cross	D22 St. Francis (Pa.)	J8 Penn St.	J22 Michigan St.	F5 Wisconsin	F19 Ohio St.	mz acremist.

Ben Johnson*

11. Penn State

WHAT WE LIKE: Guards Ben Luber and Marlon Smith, who were thrown into the fray for a combined 54 starts as freshmen, look like the real deal. The duo survived nicely. Smith is a solid shooter, while Luber is a good passer and ballhawk. Both struggled at times, but eventually the suffering should pay off. Forward Aaron Johnson looks-in the words of one Big Ten coach-like a "beer truck driver." But the former walk-on definitely delivers. Though he isn't pretty, Johnson gives Penn State a sorely needed presence in the paint.

WHAT SCARES US: Where to begin? Second-year coach Ed DeChellis has his hands full in Happy Valley with a program that's won eight league games in the last three seasons. The frontcourt tops a long list of concerns. The Nittany Lions lost leading scorer and rebounder Jan Jagla when the gangly 7-foot German bolted early for pro basketball. Robert Summers transferred to West Virginia. That leaves Johnson and a cast of question marks, including junior college transfer Travis Parker. Penn State ranked last in scoring last year and it's hard to see how that will improve.

X-FACTOR: Can Penn State take care of the basketball? Last season, the Nittany Lions ranked last in turnover margin. This bunch isn't going to overpower anyone offensively. If Penn State continues to give away offensive possessions, it literally has no shot. Luber and Smith must continue to mature and develop into leaders. Only then will Penn State fans remember there is a sport between football and spring

NITTANY LIONS DATA

Coach: Ed DeChellis (9-19, 1 year; 114-112 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Assistant coaches: Kurt Kanaskie (1 year), James Johnson (1), Hilliary Scott (1). 2003-04 record: 9-19. Big Ten: 3-13/T10th.

Last regular-season title: 1991 (Atlantic 10).

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: State College, Pa. Website: www.gopsusports.com

Home court: Bryce Jordan Center (15,261).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
10	G	Dan Adler	6-1/168	So.	0.2	0.2	0.1	25.0	0.0	0.0
5	G/F	Geary Claxton	6-5/210	Fr.	Aver	aged 2	7.2 ppg	, 14 rpg	as H.S	senior.
24	C	Kevin Fellows	6-10/248	Sr.	0.6	0.8	0.1	23.5	60.0	-
23	F	Brandon Hassell	6-9/210	Fr.	Powe	er forwa	ard with	solid pe	erimeter	skills.
0	F	Aaron Johnson	6-9/240	Jr.	9.7	6.5	1.0	48.1	69.5	70.0
25	C	John Kelly	6-11/273	Fr.	A fres	shman	who re	dshirted	in 2003-	-04.
3	G	Ben Luber*	6-0/178	So.	6.8	2.0	4.1	31.4	75.9	21.4
45	F	Jason McDougald	6-9/204	Sr.	0.8	1.0	0.2	26.3	42.9	_
33	G	Danny Morrissey	6-3/195	Fr.	Outst	tanding	3-poin	t shoote	r.	
11	F	Travis Parker	6-5/242	Jr.	JC re	ecruit a	dds m	uscle to	the fro	ntcourt.
20	G	Marlon Smith*	6-0/203	So.	13.4	3.7	2.2	36.1	75.3	33.9
1	G/F	Jamaal Tate	6-5/242	Sr.	Comi	ing bac	k from I	redshirt i	n 2003-	04.
4	G	Mike Walker	6-2/180	Fr.	Has	great co	urt sen	se and sl	hooting	ability.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	Ndu Egekeze*	6-6/230	6.2	3.6	0.5	53.6	58.7	0.0	
F	Jan Jagla*	7-0/232	13.4	7.9	1.5	43.5	77.8	32.4	
F	Robert Summers*	6-11/232	3.8	4.3	0.6	39.3	28.9	0.0	

SCHEDULE

N14-16 BCA Classic	D3 Lock Haven	D28-29 Arizona St. Tourn.	J12 at Illinois	J29 Wisconsin	F16 Illinois	M2 Minnesota
N19 Lehigh	D6 at Georgetown	J2 Texas A&M	J15 Michigan	F2 at Indiana	F19 at Northwestern	M5 at Michigan St.
N27 Sacred Heart	D11 Pittsburgh	J5 Michigan St.	J22 Northwestern	F9 at Purdue	F23 at Michigan	
D1 at Rutgers	D21 Buffalo	J8 at Minnesota	J26 at Ohio St.	F12 Ohio St.	F26 Iowa	

ONE ON ONE WITH ... TOMMY AMAKER

Michigan coach Tommy Amaker enters this season with a 51-42 record in his three years with the Wolverines. His team won the NIT championship last season.

TSN: Talk about the improvement you've seen in the three season's you've been coach.

TA: When you're trying to build a basketball program, the great signs for your future will be development, growth and improvement. We have shown that each and every year. Sometimes it's not always reflected in the number of wins. For us, it has been. But I think just as importantly, we've been able to improve our basketball program greatly from one year to the next, and we're hoping to do that again this season.

TSN: Coming off your NIT win and having nearly all of your roster back, do you have a good shot at giving Illinois a run for its money this season?

TA: There are going to be a couple of other teams included in that group. Illinois is one of those teams. Michigan State is another that's going to be ranked and thought of very highly going into the season. I think Wisconsin, as well. Those three teams are probably going to be the class of our league, and we're hoping that we can inch our way up into that category at some point this year.

TSN: Who's going to step up and fill your team's leadership role with Bernard Robinson gone?

TA: We have tri-captains this year: Graham Brown, Sherrod Harrell and Lester Abram. Those three youngsters are juniors to be. We're hoping they can provide that leadership. And a player that has always been one of our leaders is Daniel Horton. He's getting himself geared up for a very good season.



TSN: Only three Big Ten teams qualified for the NCAA Tournament last year. Is the conference going to be back on the rise soon?

TA: I think it is. Sometimes the perception of things, those phrases and terminologies get bantered about, and that becomes the party line, if you will. Certainly the only way to dispel those things is for all of us to do better and win more games. But I do think our conference is a tough

league. I think it was a tough league last year. There could've been a case made for another team to participate in the NCAA Tournament. We would've loved to have been that chosen one. But hopefully by what we were able to accomplish in postseason maybe sent a message a little bit in a very soft

TSN: Who are the players we should watch for conference Player of the Year?

TA: You have to probably start with a guy like Paul Davis of Michigan State. You have to look at Deron Williams for Illinois. He'll be a strong candidate. I'm sure they're going to be a few players who emerge as the season goes on.

TSN: Any sleeper teams we should watch out for?

TA: lowa is a team that could very well rise up. They were a team that was very competitive this past year, very tough to play and was on the bubble for the NCAA Tournament. They just had some misfortune with injuries a year ago. And I think Ohio State, even though they have a new staff and new philosophy in terms of their basketball program, they are going to be a team wanting to prove a lot coming into this year with their returning players. - Roger Kuznia

Atlantic:

Addition of two future members will be good, both on court and off

he cause-and-effect game between the Big East and A-10 continued last year. Louisville, Cincinnati, South Florida, Marquette and DePaul jumped gleefully from Conference USA into the voids left by Big East émigres Miami, Virginia Tech and Boston College. So, the Atlantic 10 had to respond in kind. Well, kind of.

The arrivals in fall 2005 of Charlotte and Saint Louis boost the league's membership roll to 14 and expand the league's sphere of influence to the Mississippi River. They

continue the A-10's devotion to a largely urban-based membership group. But in the minds of most observers, those two schools fall well short of the status gained by the Big East. To some, it might appear as if the A-10 is once again settling.

But the decision to add Charlotte and Saint Louis was a sound one, particularly as the A-10's core membership struggles on and off the hardwood. On the court, look for tight races in both divisions. The losses of Jameer Nelson and Delonte West bring Saint Joseph's back to mortal status and could make the Hawks vulnerable to a deeper, more talented Temple team and maybe even Rhode Island.

The West could well belong to upstart George Washington, although Xavier

should have tremendous depth, particularly in the frontcourt. New coach Sean Miller, a former Thad Matta assistant, should make a seamless transition after Matta's departure for Ohio State. Dayton and Richmond, as always, will be dangerous, but neither has the experience to mount a title chal-

ASCENDING: George Washington. The Colonials return four starters—but last season's sixth man, Pops Mensah-Bonsu, might be the best of the bunch. After three seasons of building, Karl Hobbs has a contender in D.C. And with just one senior of note (guard T.J. Thompson), it appears G.W. will be competitive for quite a while.

DESCENDING: La Salle. This was supposed to be the year of the Explorers. Good health, solid recruiting and the maturation of such young stars as Steven Smith were supposed to translate into a postseason berth. But the dismissals of Gary Neal and Mike Cleaves in the wake of sexual assault allegations and the uncertain status of coach Billy Hahn have left this team in shambles. As it stands now, the Explorers will be lucky to win two conference games.

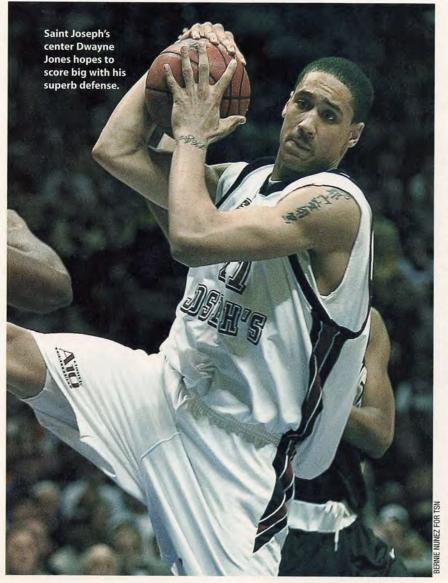
PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Pops Mensah-Bonsu, F. George

Washington. Although not a hulking physical specimen, the 6-9 junior is well-suited for the Colonials' uptempo style. Tamal Forchion's transfer to West Georgia opens a starting spot for Mensah-Bonsu and gives him an opportunity to shine.

2. Dwayne Jones, C, Saint Joseph's. While many analysts spent last year criticizing the Hawks' interior prowess, Jones quietly developed into a major defensive force and capable rebounder. This season, the 6-11 junior should continue his growth, particularly on the offensive end.

3. Scott Hazelton, F, Rhode Island. When he signed with Connecticut way back when, Hazelton was supposed to be an instant star. That never happened, but he enters his senior season with momentum after a



2003-0	45	TAN	DIN	35
	Confe	rence	Ove	rall
	W	L	W	L
East Division				
Saint Joseph's	16	0	30	2
Temple	9	7	15	14
Rhode Island	7	9	20	14
Massachusetts	4	12	10	19
St. Bonaventure	3	13	7	21
Fordham	3	13	6	22
West Division				
Dayton	12	4	24	9
George Washington	11	5	18	12
Richmond	10	6	20	13
Xavier	10	6	26	11
Duquesne	6	10	12	17
La Salle	5	11	10	20

RANKING THE 2004 RECAUITING CLASSES

- 1. Dayton: The Flyers' deep class featured freshman wings Jimmy Binnie and Norman Plummer and shooting guard Brian Roberts. But the real prize was freshman point Trent Meacham, who should start.
- 2. Xavier: Late signee Churchill Odia caps off this class. The 6-6 wing has all-league potential. Vanderbilt transfer Brian Thornton should battle for a starting job.
- 3. Richmond: Freshman big men Jarhon Giddings and Drew Crank will vie for time at power forward.
- 4. Fordham: Sebastian Greene, one of three athletic forwards, has a chance to start right away. Kevin Anderson and Marcus Stout will add depth in the backcourt.
- 5. Rhode Island: Forward Will Daniels and guard Jon Lucky can help as freshmen; Lucky might start.
- 6. St. Bonaventure: Michael Lee, a 6-8 freshman, has coaches excited. So does point Isiah Carson, who should start, JC Wade Dunston and freshman Willie Morse add firepower on the wing.
- 7. Saint Joseph's: Abdulai Jalloh, a high-scoring guard, is being penciled in as a starter. Freshman Pat Calathes is a solid insider who figures to get plenty of minutes.
- 8. Temple: Mark Tyndale is a warrior who will play as a freshman. Mighty mite point guard Chris Clark and shooting guard DaShone Kirkendoll figure to be the backcourt of the future.
- 9. George Washington: Floor leader Maureece Rice could have an immediate impact at the point.
- 10. La Salle: New coach John Giannini will have a trio of perimeter additions. The best appear to be Darnell Harris and Richard Cunningham, who add depth at guard.
- 11. Duguesne: JC Keith Gayden, the best of four additions, could start at forward.
- 12. Massachusetts: Skilled Canadian big man Olivier Lamoureux will push for a starting job as a freshman.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

strong second half in 2003-04 and should become a productive inside-out force for the Rams.

BEST BETS:

- 1. Temple's defense will improve dramatically. The Owls haven't locked down rivals for a while, which is uncharacteristic for this program. That changes this year. The arrival of 6-10 Wayne Marshall and a deeper collection of perimeter players will give coach John Chaney the pieces he needs to bulk up his matchup monster.
- 2. Sean Miller will be just fine. Xavier fans shouldn't mourn the loss of coach Thad Matta. Miller has been one of the nation's

top assistants for several years, and now he's ready to take over a program. Some might not like his fiery personality, but they won't have any problem with his results.

3. Fordham and St. Bonaventure still have a long way to go. Even though the schools have made good choices on the bench, they are a long way from real contention. Look for them to scare some big names this season, but their thin rosters and inexperience disqualify them from anything beyond spoiler roles. That probably goes for next year, too.

Michael Bradley is a free-lance writer based in Philadelphia.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Saint Joseph's	32	47.5	70.2	40.4	32.5	16.3	9.1	3.4	11.6	77.4
George Washington	30	46.1	71.2	34.8	36.3	15.1	8.6	3.4	15.6	75.0
Xavier	37	44.1	68.9	37.6	35.9	13.4	6.8	2.4	12.4	71.2
Duquesne	29	45.4	67.9	34.0	34.8	15.3	6.0	3.4	14.7	70.3
Rhode Island	34	42.2	67.7	34.0	40.6	12.5	7.0	3.1	14.3	68.9
Massachusetts	29	43.6	63.2	33.5	35.3	15.4	6.1	5.3	15.3	68.1
Dayton	33	44.7	66.5	32.1	38.4	14.8	4.5	2.8	14.2	68.0
St. Bonaventure	28	39.3	71.5	32.1	32.9	12.6	7.6	1.9	13.1	68.0
La Salle	29	41.8	70.1	30.8	32.5	11.1	6.6	1.9	13.5	65.9
Temple	29	38.3	65.2	28.0	36.3	8.7	8.4	2.9	9.0	65.1
Richmond	33	41.1	72.1	31.0	35.3	12.3	7.1	4.3	13.1	64.5
Fordham	28	40.2	57.7	31.9	31.4	12.6	7.9	2.6	16.5	62.0

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Richmond	33	39.7	63.6	27.0	35.3	11.5	6.5	2.9	14.9	59.5
Saint Joseph's	32	40.3	69.2	28.0	36.3	12.0	6.5	2.4	16.5	62.2
Xavier	37	41.4	69.0	30.3	33.6	11.9	6.0	3.5	13.6	63.2
Dayton	33	40.9	65.2	33.5	31.4	12.2	6.6	2.5	10.5	64.5
Temple	29	42.2	66.3	37.0	36.4	15.9	4.2	2.2	14.0	64.7
Rhode Island	34	40.9	63.4	30.9	33.0	12.7	6.9	3.6	13.7	64.8
George Washington	30	43.7	67.3	33.7	33.5	13.1	7.3	3.7	16.5	70.1
La Salle	29	45.4	68.2	33.9	35.5	14.0	6.6	3.0	14.0	70.4
Duquesne	29	41.6	64.3	33.6	36.1	14.4	5.9	3.1	13.9	71.4
Massachusetts	29	43.9	68.6	38.1	36.2	15.2	8.2	2.8	13.2	73.0
Fordham	28	45.4	70.1	38.0	40.7	16.6	8.7	2.8	15.8	74.1
St. Bonaventure	28	47.7	71.8	37.3	41.3	15.9	6.6	2.6	14.8	79.3

PREDICTIONS

East Division 1. Saint Joseph's

2. Temple 3. Rhode Island 4 Massachusetts 5. St. Bonaventure West Division 1. George Washington* 2. Xavier*

3. Dayton 4. Richmond 5. Duquesne 6. La Salle

*NCAA tourney pick

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

6. Fordham

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Clas
G	T. J. Thompson, G. Washington	5-10	180	Sr.
G	Mardy Collins, Temple	6-6	205	Jr.
G	Dawan Robinson, Rhode Island	6-2	185	Sr.
F	Steven Smith, La Salle	6-8	225	Jr.
F	Rashaun Freeman, Mass.	6-9	255	Jr.

SEC	COND TEAM			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Dedrick Finn, Xavier	6-1	180	Jr.
G/F	Pat Carroll, Saint Joseph's	6-5	190	Sr.
F	Mike Hall, George Washington	6-8	230	Jr.
F	Pops Mensah-Bonsu, G.W.	6-9	240	Jr.
C	Dwayne Jones, Saint Joseph's	6-11	225	Jr.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Rashaun Freeman, F, Massachusetts

He made a big splash last year, even after sitting out the 2002-03 season. So much for rust. He returns this season as the conference's top interior force and should consistently approach the 20-point, 10rebound levels. He's a powerful player, and his ability to finish close to the basket will be a tremendous complement to Massachusetts' strong perimeter players.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Rob Ferguson, F, Saint Joseph's

A redshirt freshman, the 6-8, 210-pound Ferguson is an athletic interior player who can get his own shot, rebound aggressively and run the floor like a much smaller player. Ferguson improves the Hawks' frontcourt immensely and will take some of the sting out of losing Jameer Nelson and Delonte West.

MOST UNDERRATED Mardy Collins, G, Temple

Collins averaged 15.5 points, 4.9 rebounds and 2.6 assists last season while playing in the shadow of David Hawkinsand he didn't even earn

third-team all-league honors. Collins would be even more productive if he could play his natural position, shooting guard, but he has taken over the point out of necessity and done a fine job running the offense.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Pat Carroll, Saint Joseph's Best playmaker: Martin Osimani, Duquesne Best NBA prospect: Steven Smith, La Salle Best defender: Dwayne Jones, Saint

Most versatile: Mardy Collins, Temple

1. Saint Joseph's

WHAT WE LIKE: Even without Jameer Nelson and Delonte West, this is a deep, talented and experienced team. Pat Carroll, the league's best 3-point shooter, has improved his all-around game. Center Dwayne Jones is a defensive force who could be a double-figure scorer. Role players abound. John Bryant defends with the best of them along the baseline and in the post. Chet Stachitas would gladly trade a few layers of skin for a loose ball and is a solid 3-point shooter. And forward Dave Mallon can be a valuable inside-out player. Coach Phil Martelli has said that 6-8 forward Rob Ferguson, who redshirted last year, is the kind of athletic frontcourt player the Hawks haven't had lately. And 6-9 freshman Pat Calathes might run the offense. He's a point guard who sprouted into a giant.

WHAT SCARES US: Calathes might be able to run the offense for short periods, but losing Nelson and West leaves Saint Joseph's with a hole at point guard. Junior Dwayne Lee likely will start but hasn't proved he's ready for full-time work there. And though freshman Abdulai Jalloh is talented, he's more of a combination guard. Also, someone must step up as a playmaker and as a first offensive option.

X-FACTOR: Last season's Elite Eight run didn't have an immediate benefit in the recruiting department, but that is coming. In the short term, the postseason success will boost the confidence level of the holdovers, who no doubt will continue to expect great things. That attitude, as much as anything, will assure that Saint Joseph's is a powerhouse in the A-10 this season and beyond.

HAWKS DATA

Coach: Phil Martelli (179-99, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 6-4). Assistant coaches: Monte Ross (8 years), Mark Bass (5).

2003-04 record: 30-2. Atlantic 10 East: 16-0/1st. Lost to Oklahoma State in NCAA East Rutherford Region final.

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002.

Site: Philadelphia. Website: www.sjuhawks.com Home court: Alumni Memorial Field House (3,200).

ROSTER

No	Doc	Name	He Alle	C1	DDC	DDC	ADC	FCOL	FTO/	20/
No.	9.77	7,000	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
12	G/F	Pat Calathes	6-9/205	Fr.	Was	a 5-11	point g	uard bac	k in nint	h grade
34	F	John Bryant*	6-7/220	Sr.	3.0	3.7	0.7	51.6	51.1	_
33	G/F	Pat Carroll*	6-5/190	Sr.	10.1	3.6	1.0	46.2	79.3	45.8
52	F	Rob Ferguson	6-8/210	Fr.	Redsl	hirt w	tnessec	the Elite	Eight r	ın.
1	G	Abdulai Jalloh	6-1/190	Fr.	Shou	ld hel	p repla	ce lost	scoring.	
21	C	Dwayne Jones*	6-11/225	Jr.	6.4	7.0	0.9	54.5	45.2	_
31	G	Andrew Koefer	6-2/185	So.	0.0	0.1	0.1	_	-	_
5	G	Dwayne Lee	6-0/180	Jr.	1.9	0.7	0.8	37.0	66.7	26.1
41	F	Arvydas Lidzius	6-9/215	So.	0.9	1.2	0.2	29.4	61.5	0.0
40	F	Dave Mallon	6-10/230	Jr.	2.2	1.6	0.4	34.8	46.2	21.4
3	G	Rob Sullivan	6-2/185	Jr.	0.4	0.1	0.1	50.0	50.0	0.0
13	G/F	Chet Stachitas	6-5/190	Jr.	6.5	1.5	0.9	49.3	66.7	43.9
11	C	Artur Surov	7-0/285	So.	1.7	0.8	0.1	66.7	33.3	_
KEY	Y LO	SSES								
os.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Tyrone Barley	6-1/185	7.2	1.0	1.6	42.9	79.5	41.9	Ī
G	Jameer Nelson*	6-0/190	20.6	4.7	5.3	47.5	79.2	39.0	
G	Delonte West*	6-4/180	18.9	5.4	4.7	51.0	89.2	41.2	

SCHEDULE

N23 at Kansas	D22 at Old Dominion	J8 Rhode Island	J22 at Massachusetts	F5 Duquesne	F19 St. Bonaventure	M5 Fordham
D4 Drexel	D28 Bucknell	J12 Massachusetts	J25 Pennsylvania	F7 Villanova	F22 Temple	
D7 Fairfield	D31 at Ohio St.	J15 at La Salle	J29 Xavier	F12 at Temple	F26 at Rhode Island	
D10-11 San Francisco Tourn.	J5 at Fordham	J19 at Dayton	F2 at St. Bonaventure	F16 Richmond	M1 at George Washington	

2. Temple

WHAT WE LIKE: Mardy Collins isn't a perfect point guard, but the 6-6 junior showed last season he is a capable distributor with plenty of scoring potential. If 5-8 freshman Chris Clark can't handle big minutes right away for coach John Chaney, Collins will get the call. Sophomore guard Dustin Salisbery also has big potential, which he showed off and on last season. After sitting out as a partial qualifier, 6-11, 285-pound Wayne Marshall joins 7-1 Keith Butler on a huge front line that should provide interior defense and improved rebounding. Antywane Robinson and freshman Mark Tyndale offer size and athleticism on the wing.

WHAT SCARES US: The schedule is crazy. At Duke. At Maryland. At Alabama and South Carolina. Wake Forest at home. This team has too many questions for a slate like that. Collins might be a willing point, but he would be better on the wing. Last year's team shot just 28.0 percent from 3-point range, a stat that won't change unless newcomer DaShone Kirkendoll gets on target quickly. And that vaunted zone defense is no longer so scary. Guard Tyreek Byard and forward Micheal Blackshear are solid role players, but the loss of all-league wing David Hawkins and his league-best 24.4-point average will sting.

X-FACTOR: Temple's zone had always been the great equalizer. But Chaney's insistence on using a defense better suited for 1974 than 2004 has hurt his team. The Owls surrendered more long-range field goals than any other conference team last year, a stat that must change. Chaney has a deeper roster, so he might be able to tighten things up. But the Owls haven't had a strangulating defense in three years.

OWLS DATA

Coach: John Chaney (483-224, 22 years; 708-283 overall, 32 years; NCAA Tournament 23-17).

Assistant coaches: Dan Leibovitz (8 years), Bill Ellerbee (2), Mark Macon (1). 2003-04 record: 15-14. Atlantic 10 East: 9-7/2nd. Lost to Rutgers in NIT first round.

Last regular-season title: 2001. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Philadelphia. Website: www.owlsports.com Home court: Liacouras Center (10,206).

ROSTER

*200 No.	Doc	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	20/
		modeline.	CALCULATION	10000			127			3%
2	G	Wilbur Allen	6-4/200	Sr.	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	_	0.0
21	F	Micheal Blackshear	6-6/215	Jr.	2.3	5.9	0.2	46.8	45.5	-
44	C	Keith Butler*	7-1/250	Jr.	4.7	5.8	0.5	45.9	66.0	0.0
1	G	Tyreek Byard*	6-5/175	So.	4.0	1.5	0.6	31.8	58.1	30.0
11	G	Chris Clark	5-8/165	Fr.	An in	stincti	ve, pass	-first po	int guar	d.
25	G	Mardy Collins*	6-6/205	Jr.	15.5	4.9	2.6	37.7	59.8	29.0
4	F	Dion Dacons	6-6/210	So.	0.8	1.2	0.0	66.7	40.0	_
33	F	Nehemiah Ingram	6-8/250	Sr.	1.9	2.9	0.1	60.0	38.9	_
32	G	DaShone Kirkendoll	6-5/200	Fr.	Big g	uard v	vho sho	t 54% fre	om floor	last year.
50	C	Wayne Marshall	6-11/285	So.	Reds	hirted	in 200	3-04 (ad	cademic	s).
24	F	Antywane Robinson	6-8/210	Jr.	4.7	4.5	0.8	35.0	66.7	18.2
3	G	Dustin Salisbery	6-5/205	So.	7.0	2.6	0.6	34.7	66.7	28.4
15	G	Tyrone Smith	6-0/160	Fr.	Smoo	th du	nker wh	o loves t	o compe	ete.
13	F	Mark Tyndale	6-5/210	Fr.					The same of the sa	22.7 ppg)
VE	VIC	SSES								110,
_			He Bille	DDC	0.0		100	FEAT	PWAC	201
Pos.		W-51	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP		APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G		vid Hawkins*	6-4/215	24.4	5.		2.8	39.2	75.6	30.4
G	Ma	rio Taybron	6-3/185	4.6	2	6	2.6	25.6	55.6	17.9

SCHEDULE

N19 Auburn	D4 Villanova	D20 Princeton	J15 at Maryland	J29 at St. Bonaventure	F12 Saint Joseph's	F26 Massachusetts
N22 at Georgetown	D8 Pennsylvania	J5 at Massachusetts	J19 St. Bonaventure	F1 Rhode Island	F16 at Duquesne	M2 at Rhode Island
N27 at South Carolina	D11 at Alabama	J8 at Duke	J22 at Xavier	F5 George Washington	F19 at Richmond	M5 La Salle
N30 Arizona St.	D13 Wake Forest	J12 Fordham	J26 at Fordham	F9 Dayton	F22 at Saint Joseph's	

3. Rhode Island

WHAT WE LIKE: Dawan Robinson has grown during his time in Kingston and has star potential. He's a strong 3-point shooter, a good penetrator and an above-average distributor. If freshman Jon Lucky can handle significant minutes at the point, Robinson can shift to shooting guard, where he is more comfortable. Senior Scott Hazelton should be a viable second option next to Robinson. There is no fire-eater inside, but Marcel Momplaisir, J.R. Moore, Terrence Mack and Jon Clark all are capable board men and defenders. Wing Jamaal Wise is a solid scorer off the dribble.

WHAT SCARES US: If Lucky can't play big minutes right away, the Rams will have limited backcourt depth. They can't rely on the other freshman guard, Parfait Bitee, whose prospects for a fast start have been dimmed by a knee injury suffered last year. Hazelton hasn't yet handled the high expectations that followed his transfer from Connecticut, so he must prove he can be a major contributor every game. The Rams committed way too many turnovers last year with Robinson running the point, another reason why it would be great to have Lucky step up fast.

X-FACTOR: When the roll call of top coaches is taken nationally, Jim Baron's name is never mentioned. Heck, he doesn't even make the short list in his own league. But URI made one of its best athletic decisions by hiring Baron, who is quietly building a team that could be difficult to handle this year and a contender for A-10 honors before long. Baron keeps it simple, and his teams play hard and smart.

SCHEDULE

N19 Brown	N30 Boston University	D27 at lona	J8 at St. Joseph's	J27 Dayton	F12 at St. Bonaventure	F26 Saint Joseph's
N23 at Manhattan	D4 at Providence	D30 at DePaul	J15 at Richmond	F1 at Temple	F15 La Salle	M2 Temple
N26 Maine	D8 Stony Brook	J2 Holy Cross	J19 at Duquesne	F6 at Xavier	F20 at Fordham	M5 George Washington
N28 Seton Hall	D11 at Rutgers	J5 St. Bonaventure	J22 Fordham	F9 Massachusetts	F23 at Massachusetts	

4. Massachusetts

WHAT WE LIKE: That was some debut for Rashaun Freeman, who averaged 15.6 points, 8.6 rebounds and claimed league Rookie of the Year honors. Now, the interior force will set his sights even higher. The backcourt of point guard Anthony Anderson and Art Bowers is steady and productive. Anderson will compete for all-league honors. Maurice Maxwell flashed potential on the wing last year and could become a reliable scorer, while forward Jeff Viggiano has shooting range and will hit the boards. The freshman class includes much-needed size, and 6-8 redshirt Lawrence Carrier could get big minutes.

WHAT SCARES US: Will Massachusetts ever average 70 points a game? The Minutemen had some long dry spells last year and shot just 43.6 percent as a team. It didn't help that they averaged 15.3 turnovers. If this team wants to compete, it must become efficient offensively. It also must improve in foul shooting (63.2 percent) and rebounding (minus-0.9). Another concern is depth. Five starters are back, and that's great, but Massachusetts has only two other players (guard Chris Chadwick and forward Stephane Lasme) who averaged more than 10 minutes—and neither was a significant contributor.

X-FACTOR: Coach Steve Lappas has little security. Three years after coming to Amherst as a Big East coach ready to help the program back to national prominence, his record is 34-53. Lappas has not been able to lure top-shelf recruits, and he isn't considered a particularly impressive game coach. He must hope the experience of his returning starters will carry the load this year.

SCHEDULE

	MEDULE												
N23	Birmingham Southern	D9 Connecticut	J2	Boston College	J15	at George Washington	J29	Richmond	F16	Florida St.	M1	at Dayton	
N28	Yale	D12 at Miami (Fla.)	15	Temple	J19	Fordham	F5	St. Bonaventure	F19	at La Salle	M5	Duquesne	
D1	Northeastern	D23 Rider	J8	Xavier	J22	Saint Joseph's	F9	at Rhode Island	F23	Rhode Island			
D4	at Gonzaga	D28 Boston University	J12	at Saint Joseph's	J26	at St. Bonaventure	F12	at Fordham	F26	at Temple			

RAMS DATA

Coach: Jim Baron (48-45, 3 years; 254-247 overall, 17 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Assistant coaches: Dan Theiss (3 years), Ty Weeks (3).

2003-04 record: 20-14. Atlantic 10 East: 7-9/3rd. Lost to West Virginia in NIT second round.

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Kingston, R.I. Website: www.gorhody.com Home court: Thomas Ryan Center (7,657).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
14	G	Parfait Bitee	6-2/180	Fr.	Point	can p	lay shoo	ting gua	rd, ever	forward
12	G	Randy Brooks	6-4/180	Sr.	2.3	1.7	0.6	35.4	64.5	26.1
44	C	Jon Clark*	6-9/220	Jr.	3.0	2.8	0.1	55.1	47.1	100.0
25	F	Will Daniels	6-7/205	Fr.	Toppe	ed 30	ppg as a	high sc	hool sen	ior.
21	F	Scott Hazelton	6-8/210	Sr.	6.1	3.6	0.3	42.0	88.6	15.4
50	G	Jeff Kalapos	6-5/210	Sr.	0.3	0.3	0.0	33.3	-	50.0
24	G	Jon Lucky	6-5/210	Fr.	Likel	y to s	tart rigi	ht away	at the	point.
1	F	Terrence Mack	6-6/223	Jr.	4.8	3.3	0.3	45.0	57.6	0.0
42	F	Marcel Momplaisir*	6-8/205	Sr.	3.2	4.3	0.7	45.4	50.0	0.0
13	F	J.R. Moore	6-9/240	So.	2.1	2.5	0.3	40.4	61.8	-
5	G	Dawan Robinson*	6-2/185	Sr.	15.1	3.9	3.5	43.3	64.2	40.3
4	G	Tyrese Sullivan	5-8/165	Jr.	1.3	0.0	0.2	25.0	60.0	16.7
32	F	Jamaal Wise	6-5/190	Sr.	6.2	4.5	1.2	42.3	82.0	6.3
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Du	stin Hellenga*	6-4/210	11.2	3	.3	2.3	37.6	64.1	32.4
G	Ste	eve Mello	6-1/178	3.6	1	.5	0.9	41.2	50.0	48.8
G	Bri	an Woodward*	6-3/180	13.3	6	.2	2.5	44.2	79.2	32.4

MINUTEMEN DATA

Coach: Steve Lappas (34-53, 3 years; 264-225 overall, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 2-4).

Assistant coaches: John Leonard (3 years), Andrew Theokas (3), Patrick Sellers (1).

2003-04 record: 10-19. Atlantic 10 East: 4-12/4th.

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Amherst, Mass. Website: www.umassathletics.com

Home court: Mullins Center (9,493).

DOSTED

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
12	G	Anthony Anderson*	5-11/170	Sr.	12.9	4.4	3.5	41.5	81.2	38.7
34	G	Art Bowers*	6-4/190	So.	9.6	3.5	3.2	33.3	60.8	36.1
23	F	Lawrence Carrier	6-8/225	So.	Highl	y tout	ed big r	nan reds	hirted la	st year
13	G	Chris Chadwick	6-3/195	Sr.	3.7	1.1	1.9	42.7	67.6	24.1
20	F	Tim Collins	6-5/210	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	_	-
1	F	Rashaun Freeman*	6-9/255	Jr.	15.4	8.5	0.9	54.9	61.3	0.0
33	G	Mike Jones	6-4/185	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
21	F	Alassane Kouyate	6-8/200	So.	Medi	cal red	shirt la	st season	(knee).	
11	F	Olivier Lamoureux	6-9/215	Fr.	Will b	oring p	hysical	presence	to front	court.
5	F	Stephane Lasme	6-8/190	So.	3.2	3.4	0.4	54.2	44.1	-
0	F	Brennan Martin	6-6/190	Sr.	2.3	0.4	0.4	38.9	50.0	31.0
11	G	Maurice Maxwell*	6-5/175	So.	8.1	3.1	3.1	40.4	52.5	26.4
40	F	Adham Osman	6-6/215	So.	0.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	-	-
24	C	Jeff Salovski	6-11/325	Fr.	Has a	wide	body ar	nd great	passing	skills.
22	F	Jeff Viggiano*	6-6/215	Jr.	9.7	5.4	1.6	42.3	76.4	30.7
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.		the other transfer or	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Ga	holoo	6-9/210	0.1	6	3	13	48.7	46.3	33.3

5. St. Bonaventure

WHAT WE LIKE: The Bonnies are still on probation and have only nine players on scholarship. They lost Marques Green, the school's all-time leader in assists and steals, but a strong recruiting class and a year under coach Anthony Solomon's steady direction have helped the program take steps toward prosperity. The arrival of Wade Dunston, a shooting guard from Iowa Western College, should help the offense, a big concern now that Green and Maurice Young are gone. Senior Patrick Lottin averaged 13.3 points last season, but his status will be unknown until December as he struggles to recover from the ACL surgery he had in April. Junior Ahmad Smith is a capable wing scorer who rebounds well; senior Yankuba Camara brings interior size (6-11, 250) to a team with little bulk.

WHAT SCARES US: The point guard job falls to freshman Isiah Carson, a physical player with a good prep resume (17.3 ppg, 7.2 apg). But he is a freshman, and backups Smith and Kern Carter aren't true points. Camara is big, but he struggled last year and remains raw and has little help. Senior Saulius Dumbliauskas was erratic, and Lottin is more of a scorer than an enforcer.

X-FACTORS: Bonnies coaches are excited about 6-8 freshman Michael Lee, who can leap, run and handle the ball well. He's expected to score, rebound and block shots and is the kind of piece Solomon wants to put in place. Lee averaged 22.5 points and 12.3 rebounds last year as a Florida high school senior and should start immediately. He's a nice addition to a program that needs more players like him.

BONNIES DATA

Coach: Anthony Solomon (7-21, 1 year).

Assistant coaches: Jayson Gee (1 year), John Brannen (1), Cory McClure (1st).

2003-04 record: 7-21. Atlantic 10 East: 3-13/T5th. Last regular-season title: 1983 (tie, A-10 West).

Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Olean, N.Y. Website: www.gobonnies.com

Home court: Reilly Center (6,000).

ROSTER

Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
41	C	Yankuba Camara*	6-11/250	Sr.	3.1	3.8	0.2	49.3	72.7	_
32	G	Isiah Carson	6-1/190	Fr.	True	point i	s stron	g enoug	h to sco	re inside
2	G	Kern Carter	6-2/185	So.	3.6	2.6	1.0	39.4	39.4	14.3
11	F	S. Dumbliauskas*	6-8/230	Sr.	3.6	3.7	0.6	35.4	79.2	14.3
23	G/F	Wade Dunston	6-4/190	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer v	vill prov	ide offer	nsive sp	ark.
	F	Brian Gibbs	6-5/225	So.	JC tra	nsfer v	vill shor	e up the	front li	ne.
5	F	Michael Lee	6-8/195	Fr.	Could	becon	ne an in	npact pla	ayer imn	nediately.
30	G	Greg Lewis	5-11/190	Sr.	1.3	0.4	0.1	50.0	61.5	0.0
24	G/F	Patrick Lottin	6-7/225	Jr.	13.3	4.5	2.0	39.7	76.8	33.3
33	G	Willie Morse	6-3/190	Fr.	Shoot	ing gui	ard won	all-state	honors	as a senior
1	G	Ahmad Smith*	6-5/195	Jr.	10.3	5.9	2.1	40.7	62.8	19.4

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Marques Green*	5-7/160	19.4	3.3	5.2	36.8	76.9	35.6	
F	Maurice Young*	6-5/200	11.7	4.2	1.6	30.7	77.9	30.7	

SCHEDULE

N12 at Iona	D4 Cornell	D22 George Mason	J12 George Washington	J29 Temple	F12 Rhode Island	F26 Fordham
N23 Marist	D7 at Syracuse	D28-29 Flint Hill Invit.	J19 at Temple	F2 Saint Joseph's	F16 at Xavier	M5 at Richmond
N27 at Canisius	D17 at Arkansas-Little Rock	J5 at Rhode Island	J23 at Duquesne	F5 at Massachusetts	F19 at Saint Joseph's	
D1 at West Virginia	D20 Niagara	J8 La Salle	J26 Massachusetts	F8 at Fordham	F22 Dayton	

6. Fordham

WHAT WE LIKE: Things are getting better in the Bronx. Slowly. Coach Dereck Whittenburg lured a solid recruiting class and will have 10 scholarship players—quite a difference from last year, when the Rams at times used just five. Michael Binns will step in immediately at power forward, beside solid rebounder and defender Mushon Ya'akosi. Kevin Anderson can play either guard spot, and Marcus Stout is also versatile. They will work in behind returning guards Jermaine Anderson and Derrick Breland, both of whom can distribute the ball. Anderson also should score in double figures. Sebastian Greene and Bryant Dunston add depth up front.

WHAT SCARES US: This team is young, inexperienced and likely to experience growing pains. The Rams have taken a nice first step, but they are worlds away from contention. Last year's top three scorers (Michael Haynes, Mark Jarrell-Wright and John Blackgrove) are gone, and that's from a team that was held under 60 points 13 times. Big scoring help is needed. Ya'akosi can rebound, but his offensive game is rudimentary; Binns averaged just eight points as a high school senior. Fordham must improve last year's minus-9.3 rebounding margin and the league's worst assist-to-turnover ratio (0.77).

X-FACTOR: Whittenburg dreams of unleashing a hungry, attacking team that can press and run. Kevin Anderson and Stout will help in that quest. They will team with Jermaine Anderson and Breland in a capable backcourt that will have some flexibility. Down the road, they could be key components in a more aggressive defensive style.

SCHEDULE

N20 St. Francis (N.Y.)	D6 Holy Cross	D28-29 Central Fla. Classic	J12 at Temple	J26 Temple	F12 Massachusetts M2	Duguesne
N24 at Boston University	D11 Fairfield	J1 at Western Kentucky	J16 Xavier	F2 at Dayton		at Saint Joseph's
N27 Manhattan	D14 at Villanova	J5 Saint Joseph's	J19 at Massachusetts	F5 at La Salle	F20 Rhode Island	
D1 at Iona	D23 Siena	J8 Richmond	J22 at Rhode Island	F8 St. Bonaventure	F26 at St. Bonaventure	

RAMS DATA

Coach: Dereck Whittenburg (6-22, 1 year; 73-72 overall, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Assistant coaches: Ross Burns (1 year), Travis Lyons (1), Alex Groothuis

2003-04 record: 6-22. Atlantic 10 East: 3-13/T5th. Last regular-season title: 1994 (tie, Patriot).

Last NCAA appearance: 1992.

Site: Bronx, N.Y. Website: www.fordhamsports.com

Home court: Rose Hill Gym (3,200).

DOCTED

RO	51	ER								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos	. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
5	G	Jermaine Anderson	6-1/180	Jr.	6.6	2.5	2.6	42.4	69.4	33.9
14	G	Kevin Anderson	6-3/185	Fr.	Could	see p	laying t	ime at e	ither gua	rd spot.
21	F	Michael Binns	6-7/220	Fr.	Powe	er for	ward w	ill step i	nto rota	tion.
13	G	Derrick Breland*	5-10/170	Sr.	8.2	1.6	2.8	31.6	74.5	33.3
00	F	Ryan Carr	6-5/190	Sr.	0.3	0.4	0.1	66.7	0.0	=
42	F	Bryant Dunston	6-8/220	Fr.	Can c	log th	e lane a	nd block	shots.	
3	F	Sebastian Greene	6-7/195	Fr.	Could	d step	right i	nto a st	arting jo	b.
15	G	Corey McCrae	6-2/180	Jr.	Trans	fer fro	m Wag	ner.		
31	F	Dominic Osei	6-5/210	So.	3.1	2.5	0.4	28.2	42.5	19.6
2	G	Miguel Perez	5-9/165	Jr.	0.7	0.2	0.3	33.3	80.0	16.7
11	G	Marcus Stout	6-3/170	Fr.	Had 1	14.0 p	pg and	6.0 apg a	as a prep	senior.
33	G	Tom Tubridy	6-3/190	Jr.	0.8	0.2	0.1	75.0	1.00	75.0
51	F	Mushon Ya'akosi*	6-8/230	Sr.	6.5	7.2	0.9	48.3	38.0	-
KE	Y LC	OSSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Jol	nn Blackgrove	6-2/180	14.2	2	.2	0.8	39.5	73.3	40.6
F	Mi	chael Haynes*	6-8/215	18.6	7	.4	2.1	45.3	56.6	37.0
G/F			6-5/190	11.6	4	.8	3.1	44.6	63.5	24.0
G	Dr	ew Williamson	6-4/200	6.0	2.	.6	1.3	38.2	85.2	34.6

1. George Washington

WHAT WE LIKE: This team is dynamite at home (11-1 last season), where it feeds off a raucous crowd and plays its go-go style with abandon. The Colonials score plenty of points (75 points per game last year) and shoot it better than most teams (second in the Atlantic 10 at 46.1 percent). Much of that offensive efficiency can be traced to forwards Mike Hall and Pops Mensah-Bonsu, both double-figure scorers. Look for Mensah-Bonsu to have a breakout season after serving as sixth man in 2003-04. Shooting guard T.J. Thompson is a sharpshooter who also distributes pretty well and plays sticky defense, while point man Carl Elliott keeps things moving briskly. The Colonials rebound well, shoot accurately from long range and make their free throws.

WHAT SCARES US: As with any uptempo style, there are the twin demons of turnovers and field-goal percentage defense with which to contend. G.W. coughed up 15.6 turnovers a game last year while allowing rivals to shoot 43.7 percent. When the Colonials handle those two parts of the game better, they will be contenders in the West. The backcourt needs to get a little more accurate. Although reserve J.R. Pinnock is reliable from the field, Thompson shot just 39.9 percent last season, and Elliott made just 40.6 percent of his tries.

X-FACTOR: Mensah-Bonsu didn't start last year, but he managed to finish second on the team in scoring and rebounding while shooting 61.6 percent. His big problem is foul trouble. If he can stay on the court for 30 minutes a night, he will be one of the league's best and a big factor against just about anybody the Colonials face.

SCHEDULE

N15-26 Preseason NIT	D4-5 BB&T Classic	D29 at West Virginia	J15 Massachusetts	J30 Dayton	F19 Duquesne	M5 at Rhode Island
N20 Morgan St.	D11 at St. Francis (Pa.)	J5 La Salle	J19 at La Salle	F5 at Temple	F23 at Xavier	
N28 Fairfield	D18 Towson	J8 at Duquesne	J22 at Richmond	F12 Richmond	F26 at Dayton	
D1 Mount St. Mary's	D23 at Florida International	J12 at St. Bonaventure	J25 Xavier	F16 Fordham	M1 Saint Joseph's	

2. Havier

WHAT WE LIKE: Is it possible for a team to lose two NBA draft picks and be more talented? Absolutely. Lionel Chalmers and Romain Sato are gone, but a sterling crop of newcomers will improve the frontcourt versatility and depth. The most exciting addition is 6-6 Churchill Odia, a classic point guard. He is slated to start next to quick holdover Dedrick Finn. Another fresh face is forward Boubacar Coly, an athletic rebounder and shot blocker who sat out last year with a knee injury. Coly, powerhouse Josh Duncan and Vanderbilt transfer Brian Thornton would be enough to make a case that this team is improved. But the Musketeers also return hard-working Justin Doellman, who became a dangerous inside-out man late last year, along with quick Brandon Cole and banger Will Caudle.

WHAT SCARES US: Thad Matta's decision to take the Ohio State job in July didn't help the program's continuity. Former assistant Sean Miller must win big this year or risk losing momentum. The team has no proven long-range shooter. Finn has potential, as does freshman Stanley Burrell, but neither can replace Sato or Chalmers. Odia can become special, but what happens if the Nigerian can't get a visa? If Finn must handle the point, Xavier loses any backcourt flexibility.

X-FACTOR: Miller brought most of this talented roster to Xavier, so he's a good choice as Matta's successor. Miller has proven himself as a loyal lieutenant at Miami (Ohio), Pittsburgh, Wisconsin and North Carolina State as well as in his three years at Xavier. He is a high-energy, intense coach who appears ready to succeed. It's time for him to do it.

COLONIALS DATA

Coach: Karl Hobbs (42-45, 3 years).

Assistant coaches: Darrell Brooks (3 years), Steve Pikiell (3), Roland Houston (1st).

2003-04 record: 18-12. Atlantic 10 West: 11-5/2nd. Lost to Virginia in NIT first round.

Last regular-season title: 1999 (A-10 West).

Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Washington, D.C. **Website:** www.gwsports.com **Home court:** Charles E. Smith Center (5,000).

ROSTER

	tarter; bold names: pro	jected 2004	-05 st	arter					
Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Dokun Akingbade	6-9/200	Jr.	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	_	-
F	Rock Battistoni	6-8/220	Sr.	0.6	0.4	0.1	60.0	75.0	_
F	Jaz Cowan	6-8/236	Jr.	0.7	0.2	0.0	42.9	_	50.0
G	Carl Elliott*	6-4/220	So.	8.4	3.8	4.3	40.6	58.5	36.4
C	Jaaron Greene	6-11/254	So.	0.0	0.5	0.0	_	_	_
F	Mike Hall*	6-8/230	Jr.	10.3	7.8	1.5	51.6	76.8	33.3
G	Lafonte Johnson	5-10/178	Sr.	2.1	0.9	1.3	29.4	80.8	28.1
F	Alexander Kireev	6-11/251	Jr.	1.5	1.0	0.2	57.1	60.0	_
G	Ricky Lucas	6-4/213	So.	4.2	1.1	0.3	32.8	90.0	32.8
F	Pops Mensah-Bonsu	6-9/240	Jr.	11.6	5.4	0.4	61.6	68.5	_
G	J.R. Pinnock	6-5/207	So.	9.8	3.4	1.2	46.9	78.7	39.6
G	Maureece Rice	6-1/215	Fr.	Broke	Chamb	erlain's F	hilly high	school p	oints mark.
G	T.J. Thompson*	5-10/180	Sr.	13.2	2.5	3.4	39.9	80.0	33.2
F	Omar Williams*	6-9/190	Jr.	7.7	5.2	2.0	51.3	66.4	50.0
	F F G C F G F G G G	F Dokun Akingbade F Rock Battistoni F Jaz Cowan G Carl Elliott* C Jaaron Greene F Mike Hall* G Lafonte Johnson F Alexander Kireev G Ricky Lucas G J.R. Pinnock Maureece Rice G T.J. Thompson*	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 So. C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 So. F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 Jr. G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr.	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. 0.0 F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. 0.6 F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. 0.7 G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 So. 8.4 C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 So. 0.7 F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 Jr. 10.3 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. 2.1 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. 1.5 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. 4.2 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. 11.6 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. 9.8 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. Broke G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr. 13.2	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. 0.0 0.2 F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. 0.6 0.4 F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. 0.7 0.2 G Carl Elliott* 6-8/220 So. 8.4 3.8 C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 So. 0.0 0.5 F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 Jr. 10.3 7.8 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. 2.1 0.9 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. 1.5 1.0 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. 4.2 1.1 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. 11.6 5.4 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. 9.8 3.4 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. Broke Chamb G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr. 13.2 2.5	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. 0.0 0.2 0.0 F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. 0.6 0.4 0.1 F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. 0.7 0.2 0.0 G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 So. 8.4 3.8 4.3 C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 So. 0.0 0.5 0.0 F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 Jr. 10.3 7.8 1.5 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. 2.1 0.9 1.3 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. 1.5 1.0 0.2 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. 4.2 1.1 0.3 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. 11.6 5.4 0.4 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. 9.8 3.4 1.2 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. Broke Chamberlain's F G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr. 13.2 2.5 3.4	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. 0.0 0.2 0.0 0.0 F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. 0.6 0.4 0.1 60.0 G Zar Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. 0.7 0.2 0.0 42.9 G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 So. 8.4 3.8 4.3 40.6 C Jaaron Greene 6-11/254 So. 0.0 0.5 0.0 — F Mike Hall* 6-8/230 Jr. 10.3 7.8 1.5 51.6 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. 2.1 0.9 1.3 29.4 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. 1.5 1.0 0.2 57.1 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. 4.2 1.1 0.3 32.8 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. 11.6 5.4 0.4 61.6 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. 9.8 3.4 1.2 46.9 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. Broke Chamberlain's Philly high G T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr. 13.2 2.5 3.4 39.9	F Dokun Akingbade 6-9/200 Jr. 0.0 0.2 0.0 0.0 — F Rock Battistoni 6-8/220 Sr. 0.6 0.4 0.1 60.0 75.0 F Jaz Cowan 6-8/236 Jr. 0.7 0.2 0.0 42.9 — G Carl Elliott* 6-4/220 So. 8.4 3.8 4.3 40.6 58.5 F Jaz Gowan 6-8/230 Jr. 10.3 7.8 1.5 51.6 76.8 G Lafonte Johnson 5-10/178 Sr. 2.1 0.9 1.3 29.4 80.8 F Alexander Kireev 6-11/251 Jr. 1.5 1.0 0.2 57.1 60.0 G Ricky Lucas 6-4/213 So. 4.2 1.1 0.3 32.8 90.0 F Pops Mensah-Bonsu 6-9/240 Jr. 11.6 5.4 0.4 61.6 68.5 G J.R. Pinnock 6-5/207 So. 9.8 3.4 1.2 46.9 78.7 G Maureece Rice 6-1/215 Fr. Broke Chamberlain's Philly high school p T.J. Thompson* 5-10/180 Sr. 13.2 2.5 3.4 39.9 80.0

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Greg Collucci	6-3/181	3.4	0.9	0.3	38.1	_	38.4	
F	Tamal Forchion*	6-6/240	3.6	1.7	0.3	45.7	54.3	-	

MUSKETEERS DATA

Coach: Sean Miller (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Chris Mack (1st year), Monte Mathis (1st).

2003-04 record: 26-11. Atlantic 10 West: 10-6/T3rd. Lost to Duke in NCAA Atlanta Region final.

Last regular-season title: 2003.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2000. Site: Cincinnati. Website: www.xavier.edu/athletics

Home court: Cintas Center (10,250).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34	G	Stanley Burrell	6-2/185	Fr.	Shoo	ting gu	ard wit	h a scori	ng ment	ality.
3	F	Justin Cage*	6-6/215	So.	4.6	3.4	1.1	43.5	65.0	21.4
52	F/C	Will Caudle	6-9/240	Jr.	2.8	2.0	0.1	40.0	73.1	_
32	G	Keenan Christiansen	6-4/200	Jr.	0.5	0.3	0.2	18.2	0.0	22.2
33	F	Brandon Cole	6-8/235	So.	3.1	3.0	0.2	49.5	51.0	_
21	F	Boubacar Coly	6-9/232	Fr.	Reds	hirted I	ast seas	on after	injuring	his knee
15	F	Justin Doellman*	6-9/210	So.	7.3	3.6	1.7	43.1	70.9	42.5
1	F	Josh Duncan	6-9/225	Fr.	Form	er Cinc	innati p	layer of	the year	
12	G	Dedrick Finn	6-1/180	Jr.	8.5	2.1	3.4	41.6	68.6	37.8
25	G/F	Keith Jackson	6-6/210	Sr.	2.4	1.5	0.7	38.2	65.2	0.0
20	G	Dupree Lucas	6-2/175	So.	Junio	r colle	ge recru	it shores	up back	court.
4	G	Churchill Odia	6-6/205	Fr.	Playe	d for th	he Nige	rian juni	or natio	nal team.
2	F	Brian Thornton	6-8/260	Jr.	Vand	erbilt	transfe	r adds e	experier	ice.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Lionel Chalmers*	6-0/180	16.6	3.3	3.2	44.9	70.9	40.9
F	Anthony Myles*	6-9/245	10.6	6.9	0.9	53.6	49.5	_
G	Romain Sato*	6-5/205	16.3	8.0	2.3	40.4	82.9	34.9

SCHEDULE

N19 Oakland	D11 at Tennessee	D30 Marshall	J16 at Fordham	J29 at Saint Joseph's	F13 at Duquesne	F27 at La Salle
N22 Miami (Ohio)	D18 Mississippi St.	J3 Iowa St.	J19 Richmond	F2 La Salle	F16 St. Bonaventure	M2 at Richmond
N27 Miami (Fla.)	D21 Lehigh	J8 at Massachusetts	J22 Temple	F6 Rhode Island	F19 at Dayton	M5 Dayton
N30 Creighton	D28 IPFW	J12 Duquesne	J25 at George Washington	F10 at Cincinnati	F23 George Washington	

Dayton

WHAT WE LIKE: An infusion of strong newcomers will make the Flyers deeper and more versatile than they have been in years. Coach Brian Gregory will have lineup flexibility and can pressure opponents constantly—exactly what he wants to do. There is great potential in the backcourt, where freshman Trent Meacham's good decision-making skills will bring depth—and perhaps a new starter—to the point. Warren Williams must step up to keep his job. Freshman Brian Roberts also will press senior guard Mark Jones, who has 15-point potential, provided he shoots the 3 like he did two years ago. Up front, freshmen Chris Alvarez and Norman Plummer combine with redshirt Nick Stafford to bring needed athletic ability. Outside shooting comes from 6-6 freshman wing Jimmy Binnie. Marques Bennett emerged last season as a reliable rebounder and strong defender who embraces his role.

WHAT SCARES US: The Flyers lost all-league forward Keith Waleskowski and steady center Sean Finn, leaving 6-11 sophomore James Cripe as the only experienced big man. That's not good because Cripe is very mechanical. Jones could be a big scorer, but he must prove it every night. The same goes for Monty Scott, who struggled after sitting out 2002-03. With Ramod Marshall gone, Williams must prove he can dish out assists for more than 15-20 minutes a game.

X-FACTOR: Jones shot just 38.8 percent last year. Perhaps he had trouble adjusting to Gregory's system, or maybe he just hit a strange shooting slump. But the Flyers need him to be a steady, double-figure scorer. With Brooks and Marshall gone, it's Jones' time.

SCHEDULE

N20 Eastern Kentucky	D7 Wyoming	D23 Akron	J12 at Richmond	J27 at Rhode Island	F9 at Temple	F26 George Washington
N27 Coppin St.	D11 Texas Southern	D29 at Vanderbilt	J15 at Duquesne	J30 at George Washington	F12 at La Salle	M1 Massachusetts
D1 at DePaul	D18 at Saint Louis	J5 Duquesne	J19 Saint Joseph's	F2 Fordham	F19 Xavier	M5 at Xavier
D4 Cincinnati	D20 Northwestern St.	J8 Cornell	J22 La Salle	F6 Richmond	F22 at St. Bonaventure	

G

Richmond

WHAT WE LIKE: No team in the league plays better defense-not even Temple or Saint Joseph's. Last season, the Spiders allowed just 59.5 points per game and held opponents to 39.7 percent shooting. Forward Jermaine Bucknor showed signs of becoming a reliable scorer in last year's conference tournament, posting 12 points against Fordham and 17 against Temple. Gaston Moliva has the potential to become a do-everything interior player. Freshman Courtney Nelson, the New Jersey player of the year, should be starting at the point by midseason. Wing Jamaal Scott is bullish and attacks the basket.

WHAT SCARES US: Four seniors are gone from a team that made a strong late charge. Now coach Jerry Wainwright must hope Scott or sophomore Tim Mayes, who had a hip injury last season, can help replace the defense, rebounding and leadership of Tony Dobbins. Patrick O'Malley must become a 3-point shooting threat again, like he was in 2002-03, and Kevin Steenberge must continue his improvement inside and become a reliable pivot man.

X-FACTOR: Because Richmond is so young, Wainwright will have to be more committed to creating trouble with his schemes—particularly on defense. He is one of the more underrated coaches in the league and on the national scene, but teams that face the Spiders regularly know just how much trouble he can cause. Opponents that face Richmond early will see a team that is scuffling for an identity. But teams that play the Spiders in February and March will have to deal with an entirely different opponent.

CCHEUII E

	JILDULL												
N1	at Seton Hall	D4	at Wake Forest	D28	-30 Fiesta Bowl Classic	J15	Rhode Island	J29	at Massachusetts	F12	at George Washington	M2	Xavier
N2	5 Elon	D11	at Va. Commonwealth	J4	Colorado	J19	at Xavier	F1	Duquesne	F16	at Saint Joseph's	M5	St. Bonaventure
N2	3 at Virginia	D17	UAB	J8	at Fordham	J22	George Washington	F6	at Dayton	F19	Temple		
D1	South Florida	D23	at Pittsburgh	J12	Dayton	J26	at La Salle	F9	La Salle	F27	at Duquesne		

FLYERS DATA

Coach: Brian Gregory (24-9, 1 year; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Assistant coaches: Mike Jackson (1 year), Billy Schmidt (1). 2003-04 record: 24-9. Atlantic 10 West: 12-4/1st. Lost to DePaul in NCAA Phoenix Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002. Site: Dayton, Ohio. Website: www.daytonfliers.com Home court: University of Dayton Arena (13,409).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
32	F/C	Chris Alvarez	6-8/210	Fr.	Avera	aged a	double	-double	at Blair A	Academy.
22	G/F	Marques Bennett*	6-4/200	Jr.	2.9	3.5	1.2	40.3	23.1	32.7
33	F	Jimmy Binnie	6-6/200	Fr.	Led p	orep te	am in s	coring, re	boundin	g, assists.
44	C	James Cripe	6-11/250	So.	1.5	1.5	0.1	41.5	65.0	_
14	G	Mark Jones*	6-1/180	Sr.	9.1	3.5	2.5	38.8	76.6	32.2
55	C	Jon Kingston	6-8/245	So.	Walk	-on la	st seaso	n hopes	for playing	ng time.
10	G	Trent Meacham	6-3/185	Fr.	Point	t guar	d can s	core, di	sh, even	rebound.
4	G	Jeff Penno	6-5/195	Jr.	Akroi	n trans	fer wal	k-on is el	ligible th	is season.
21	F	Norman Plummer	6-7/215	Fr.	Avera	aged 2	2.8 ppg	at Hargi	ave Milit	tary.
3	G	Brian Roberts	6-2/175	Fr.	Made	e 90 pe	ercent o	f free thr	ows last	season.
1	F	Monty Scott	6-6/220	Jr.	6.3	3.6	0.9	40.8	82.5	32.4
5	F/C	Nick Stafford	6-8/210	So.	Com	ming o	ff a red	shirt 200	3-04 sea	son.
15	G/F	Logan White	6-4/180	Jr.	2.2	1.00	0.5	40.0	82.4	33.3
11	G	Warren Williams	6-0/195	Jr.	4.9	1.6	2.1	40.7	62.5	40.8
KE	LC	SSES								
Pos.	Nai		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RI	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

SPIDERS DATA

Sean Finn*

Ramod Marshall*

Keith Waleskowski*

Coach: Jerry Wainwright (36-26, 2 years; 172-129 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 1-3)

13.1

14.6

13.3

2.8

9.9

0.6 66.3

5.2 35.3

1.9

50.3

74.3

23.6

47.9 72.6

Assistant coaches: Mike Winiecki (2 years), Ramon Williams (2), Gary

2003-04 record: 20-13. Atlantic 10 West: 10-6/T3rd. Lost to Wisconsin in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 1998 (Colonial). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Richmond, Va. Website: www.richmondspiders.com

7-0/240

6-2/180

6-8/231

Home court: Robins Center (9,071).

lo.		Name	ojected 2004 Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
32	F	Jermaine Bucknor		Jr.	4.9	3.7	0.9	49.6	75.0	37.0
0	c	Drew Crank	6-10/230	Fr.						es last yea
4	F	Jarhon Giddings	6-8/215	Fr.						ool senior.
5	G/F	Tim Mayes	6-6/215	So.	1.0	0.0	0.0	ipy as i	50.0	or semon
0	G	Daon Merritt	5-9/180	So.	5.1	1.9	2.6	33.8	73.8	21.7
5	F	Gaston Moliva			5.4	3.9	0.4	48.6		The same of
3	G		6-7/240	So.			100		60.3	0.0
		Courtney Nelson	6-1/170	Fr.						w Jersey.
5	F	Patrick O'Malley	6-8/230	Sr.	3.8	2.1	0.4	32.1	77.3	25.3
2	G	T.J. Paterick	6-1/170	So.				transfer		
2		Monty Sanders	6-6/220	Fr.				0 rpg, 5		
4	G	Jamaal Scott*	6-5/215	Sr.	4.5	2.8	0.8	42.9	59.1	19.0
1	C	Kevin Steenberge*		Jr.	4.5	3.6	0.5	50.0	63.6	-
1	G/F	Oumar Sylla	6-6/195	So.			m Valpa	raiso wi	ll redshir	t.
3	F	Peter Thomas	6-5/190	So.	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	-	0.0
E١	LO	SSES								
s.	Nai		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	5	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	Red	ggie Brown*	6-4/190	7.5	2.0	0	1.9	32.8	65.8	31.3
		y Dobbins*	6-4/190	11.1	7.0	5	2.6	44.4	75.6	29.0
		ke Skrocki*	6-6/190	16.0	3.		2.0	40.6	81.9	35.3

5. Duquesne

WHAT WE LIKE: Danny Nee enters his third season with his system and players in place. Look for a more athletic team than in recent seasons, thanks largely to a deep, versatile backcourt. Bryant McAllister isn't the best shooter, but he finds a way to score. Jack Higgins is the opposite, a fine long-range marksman whose stroke sometimes deserts him. Both will be kept well-fed by point guard Martin Osimani, whose one fault is his reluctance to shoot. Big man Kieron Achara emerged late as a solid inside scoring option and should get help from 6-7 junior college transfer Keith Gayden. Swingman Devario Hudson, a freshman, has potential to score well off the dribble.

WHAT SCARES US: The Dukes want to run, but they do not have a proven rebounder. Gayden has height, but he weighs just 210, so don't expect to see him push people around. Freshman Sean McKeon could provide some help, but it's unrealistic to expect too much right away. Despite a variety of perimeter weapons, the Dukes have no one go-to shooter. Freshman Chauncey Duke's prep stats (28.7 ppg in a homeschool league) indicate he could be a solution to that problem.

X-FACTOR: Nee's teams have a history of being strong mentally, but the Dukes have yet to display that consistently, particularly on the road. Duquesne was 3-9 away from the Palumbo Center last season. That mark could have been better. The Dukes dropped three overtime games early and lost a fourth away game by three points. Should Duquesne become more capable of handling the rigors of being a visitor, it will find itself closer to the goal of a postseason invitation.

DUKES DATA

Coach: Danny Nee (31-56, 3 years; 399-335 overall, 24 years; NCAA Tournament 1-7).

Assistant coaches: Charles Cunningham (3 years), Randy Roth (3), John Mahoney (3).

2003-04 record: 12-17. Atlantic 10 West: 6-10/5th.

Last regular-season title: 1981 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1977.

Site: Pittsburgh. Website: www.goduquesne.com Home court: A.J. Palumbo Center (6,200).

ROSTER

PG APG FG% FT% 3% 3.7 0.4 61.7 72.5 0.0
3.7 0.4 61.7 72.5 0.0
0.5 0.5 43.8 66.7 30.8
n a home-school league last year.
uit averaged 11 ppg, 10 rpg.
2.6 0.7 45.5 63.6 45.6
lete who is a proven scorer.
d to redshirt this season.
0.0 0.5 0.0 — 0.0
3.3 2.4 42.7 70.4 37.3
mental redshirt last season.
2.8 5.9 31.5 79.0 22.8
2.8 0.4 38.9 62.8 26.2
1.0 0.8 37.5 100.0 0.0
2.2 0.9 36.6 50.0 29.2
APG FG% FT% 3%
1.1 50.0 64.6 50.0
1.1 53.9 62.2 20.0
2

SCHEDULE

N12-14 NABC Classic	D1 Akron	D22 at Boston College	J8 George Washington	J23 St. Bonaventure	F13 Xavier	F27 Richmond
N20 Lafayette	D4 at Pittsburgh	D29 at Robert Morris	J12 at Xavier	J29 at La Salle	F16 Temple	M2 at Fordham
N24 West Virginia	D11 MdBaltimore County	D31 Youngstown St.	J15 Dayton	F1 at Richmond	F19 at George Washington	M5 at Massachusetts
N27 at George Mason	D18 at Ohio	J5 at Dayton	J19 Rhode Island	F5 at Saint Joseph's	F23 La Salle	

6. La Salle

WHAT WE LIKE: Forward Steven Smith proved last year that he is one of the A-10's premier players, even if he conducts business out of the limelight. He is a strong finisher inside and has the athletic ability to beat people off the dribble and in the open court. Point man Jermaine Thomas is reliable and should benefit from the arrival of quick freshman Tabby Cunningham. Another newcomer, Darnell Harris, is versatile and boasts a 38-inch vertical leap. If Mbainai Narmbaye fully recovers from a knee injury that sidelined him last year, he'll give the Explorers an important interior presence. Even with that talent, it will take a proven winner of a coach like John Giannini to keep La Salle above water this season. He guided Maine to two 20-win seasons in his eight years there and must guide La Salle through a rebuilding process after scandal rocked the program.

WHAT SCARES US: This program is in big trouble, thanks to offseason allegations of rape and sexual assault and accusations that coach Billy Hahn was involved in dissuading reports of crimes. Guards Mike Cleaves and Gary Neal, who were major contributors to the program, were dismissed from school after being charged with rape.

X-FACTOR: Narmbaye was expected to be an immediate contributor inside, but he tore a knee ligament before last season and missed every game. The 6-10, 228-pounder is a little raw, but he has the athletic ability to defend and rebound close to the bucket and should be able to score 8-10 points a night. For a team like La Salle, which has craved some stability inside, that would be tremendous.

EXPLORERS DATA

Coach: John Giannini (1st year; 125-111 overall, 8 years).

Assistant coaches: TBA

2003-04 record: 10-19. Atlantic 10 West: 5-11/6th. Last regular-season title: 1990 (MAAC South).

Last NCAA appearance: 1992.

Site: Philadelphia. Website: www.goexplorers.com

Home court: Tom Gola Arena (4,000).

ROSTER

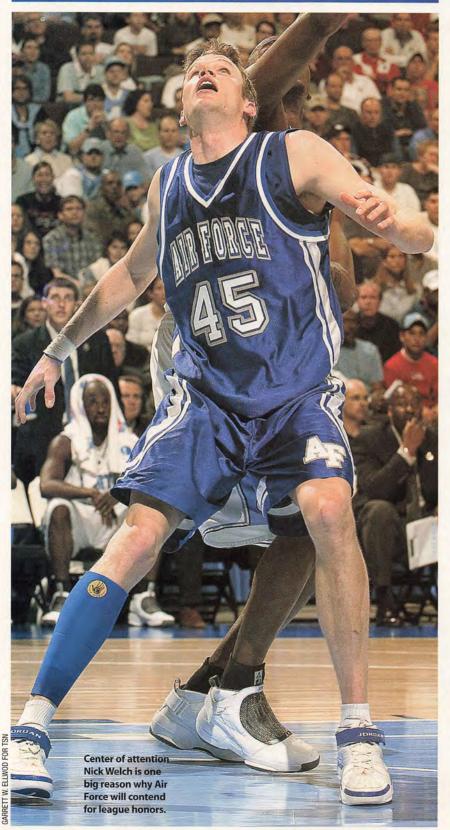
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	G	Tabby Cunningham	5-8/160	Fr.	A play	ymake	r who's	quick wi	th the b	all.
	F	Sherman Diaz	6-5/190	Fr.	Can p	lay gu	ard as v	vell as fo	rward.	
21	F/C	Lewis Fadipe	6-10/215	Jr.	1.5	2.0	0.1	48.6	33.3	_
	G	Darnell Harris	5-8/160	Fr.	Avera	aged 1	9.5 pp	g as hig	h schoo	I senior.
12	F	Dzaflo Larkai	6-8/215	Jr.	3.6	4.0	0.3	56.0	20.0	_
50	C	Mbainai Narmbaye	6-10/228	Fr.	Reds	hirted	with a	knee in	jury las	t seasor
20	G	Sean Neal	6-2/185	So.	0.7	0.4	0.8	33.3	57.1	33.3
30	F	Steven Smith*	6-8/225	Jr.	17.3	8.0	1.1	46.5	81.7	33.0
42	F	Mike St. John*	6-8/230	So.	4.5	4.5	0.6	42.7	53.7	14.3
23	G	Jermaine Thomas*	6-2/175	Jr.	7.2	2.2	2.5	36.1	66.7	32.8

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F	David Bell*	6-7/190	5.8	2.5	0.8	32.9	68.0	12.2	
G	Gary Neal*	6-4/175	18.5	3.2	2.4	42.1	84.7	35.2	
G	Mike Cleaves	5-10/175	7.1	3.1	2.5	41.6	63.2	11.1	
G	Rasheed Quadri	6-3/180	4.6	2.4	0.8	41.1	52.2	33.9	

SCHEDULE

JOI ILLUCIA						
N20 James Madison	D11 Villanova	D31 at Mount St. Mary's	J15 St. Joseph's	J29 Duquesne	F12 Dayton	F27 Xavier
N30 USC	D18 at Va. Commonwealth	J5 at George Washington	J19 George Washington	F2 at Xavier	F15 at Rhode Island	M5 at Temple
D4 at Pennsylvania	D22 at Cincinnati	J8 at St. Bonaventure	J22 at Dayton	F5 Fordham	F19 Massachusetts	
D8 Central Connecticut	D28 at American	J11 Florida International	J26 Richmond	F9 at Richmond	F23 at Duquesne	

Mountain West



Utah, UNLV stand apart in a league that's tough from top to bottom

he Mountain West got three of its eight teams into the NCAA
Tournament for the third straight year.
That's impressive. When Wyoming goes from first to worst in two years, or Air
Force surges as it did last year in winning the conference regular-season title, that indicates there's a lot of competition within the league. It's hard to believe the Cowboys could be bringing up the rear again, but given the balance from the middle of the pack down, it could be hard for Wyoming to move up, despite a great recruiting class.

BYU lost several key players, but give the Cougars a competent point guard and they could be in the championship mix. It's going to be hard for Air Force to duplicate last year's record season because the Falcons have lost the element of surprise, and Chris Mooney is a first-year head coach. He will find life a lot different sitting 18 inches to the left.

Utah and UNLV managed to keep their rosters intact despite changing coaches, and that's why the Utes and Runnin' Rebels are picked to go 1-2. UNLV's Lon Kruger is a proven winner at this level and will be motivated to prove that his stumble in the NBA was an aberration. Ray Giacoletti parlayed his success at Eastern Washington into a big-time job at Utah. He will be eager to prove he can win at this level.

ASCENDING: New Mexico. Coach Ritchie McKay has the best player in the league in Danny Granger, and he has had a couple of years to bring in his kind of players. New Mexico was playing pretty well at the end of last season, and things will be smoother this year.

DESCENDING: San Diego State. Three years ago, the Aztecs were in the NCAA Tournament. Now, they are trying to avoid returning to the lower reaches of the conference, where they resided before Steve Fisher arrived. Injuries and underachieving performances have hampered the team recently, and Fisher hopes he can turn things back around quickly.

200			

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall	
	W	L	W	L	
Air Force	12	2	22	7	
BYU	10	4	21	9	
Utah	9	5	24	9	
UNLV	7	7	18	13	
New Mexico	5	9	14	14	
San Diego State	5	9	14	16	
Colorado State	4	10	13	16	
Wyoming	4	10	11	17	

7. San Diego State

*NCAA tourney pick

8. Wyoming

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- Brigham Young: Chris Miles, David Burgess and Trent Plaisted are a trio of quality big men. Miles
 and Burgess project as future starters. JC point man Josh Reisman might step in quickly and run the show.
- 2. Wyoming: Big man Justin Williams leads a deep JC class. Chris Anderson adds frontcourt depth and wings Kevin Lewis and James Ebert will contribute instantly. Benny Songondo, at 6-10, is the top freshman.
 3. UNLV: Immediate help will come from 6-9 JC bookends Dustin Villepique and Joel Anthony. JC small

forward Wilbur Williams and guard Ricky Morgan will battle returnees for starting spots.

- **4. San Diego State:** Center Mohamed Camara, a 6-11 JC recruit, adds size inside. Shooting guard Matt Thomas could be a freshman surprise.
- **5. Colorado State:** Jason Smith, a 7-footer, has a bright future. But more immediate contributions will be made by JC guard Andrew Patterson. Floor leader Charlie Jones will end up being a steal.
- **6. New Mexico:** Look for Bombale Osby to get lots of minutes as a freshman—he's a real warrior on the glass. He will join JC combination guard Kris Collins as impact newcomers.
- 7. Utah: The Utes add a trio of point guard prospects. Look for Jermaine Calvin to battle for a starting spot. Seven-footer Luke Nevill will add depth as a freshman.
- 8. Air Force: Freshman big man Jon Black oozes potential. Tim Anderson adds perimeter firepower.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

- **1. Romel Beck, G/F, UNLV.** The 2003-04 small forward will play shooting guard for Kruger. He should feel more at home in a position that allows him to shoot from the perimeter or put it on the floor and drive to the basket. Beck averaged 14.2 points last year while playing out of position.
- 2. Dwight Boatner, G, Colorado State. The Rams struggled with their backcourt leadership until coach Dale Layer put Boatner in the starting lineup. Boatner is a good defender who also can score. Best of all, he gets his teammates involved and his confidence is growing. He could become a premier player in the Mountain West.
- 3. David Chiotti, C, New Mexico. A hardworking, unassuming big man, Chiotti also is a double-figure scorer (12.5) and better-than-average rebounder. If he can avoid foul trouble and stay on the floor, opponents will be forced to devote their best defensive resources to him.

BEST BETS:

1. Look for Kruger to have a very short

honeymoon with UNLV fans. The majority would have picked interim coach Jay Spoonhour as the full-time boss after enjoying the exciting style he installed and the way he got the team to play at the end of last season. If the Runnin' Rebels aren't runnin' again, it's likely the Thomas & Mack Center will be half empty.

- 2. Even though there was a coaching change, don't expect Air Force to play any differently under Mooney than it did with Joe Scott in charge. Mooney, like Scott, is a Princeton guy who totally believes in the deliberate system. Besides, the Falcons had their most successful season in school history last year playing that style. Why would they even think of changing?
- 3. Somebody from Colorado State will get hurt and leave Layer shorthanded. Already, the Rams are without athletic swingman Freddy Robinson, who blew out his knee in August and had surgery. CSU seems to be star-crossed when it comes to staying healthy.

Steve Carp covers college basketball for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE Team FG% FT% 3% RPG APG SPG BPG TPG PPG UNLV 74.0 31 47.4 70.4 33.6 14.5 3.5 15.2 36.1 6.7 BYU 30 48.7 72.4 35.0 34.0 14.8 6.9 3.3 13.6 73.3 San Diego State 30 42.7 69.8 32.0 35.9 14.1 8.2 2.7 13.3 70.8 Colorado State 29 45.9 71.2 33.8 35.0 13.6 5.9 4.8 70.2 17.0 Wyoming 28 43.8 67.4 33.5 36.7 11.7 5.8 3.5 14.9 70.0 New Mexico 28 44.8 72.2 37.6 32.8 14.0 5.7 3.1 13.1 69.6 47.1 Utah 33 72.3 38.7 34.5 129 4.4 3.4 14.0 64 7 Air Force 29 48.1 71.1 37.9 21.5 13.3 7.8 2.3 11.0 59.9

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Air Force	29	44.8	72.0	28.8	28.1	8.4	4.7	1.7	16.3	50.9
Utah	33	41.4	66.9	31.6	27.2	9.6	6.9	2.8	10.7	57.4
BYU	30	45.0	69.7	35.1	28.3	12.4	6.6	2.2	14.5	65.5
New Mexico	28	44.2	67.1	35.8	31.6	13.8	6.1	3.4	12.6	65.7
Wyoming	28	42.9	71.2	32.5	34.5	12.3	7.0	3.8	13.0	69.0
San Diego State	30	44.8	71.4	36.1	35.1	14.1	6.5	3.6	15.9	70.6
UNLV	31	43.3	73.3	32.9	35.4	14.0	6.2	2.8	14.9	71.3
Colorado State	29	42.8	68.9	33.3	34.1	12.9	8.9	3.8	13.3	71.9

PREDICTIONS

1. Utah*

tan*

2. UNLV*

Air Force
 New Mexico

5. Colorado State

6. Brigham Young

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
F	Danny Granger, New Mexico	6-8	220	Sr.
G	Jerel Blassingame, UNLV	5-10	170	Sr.
F/C	Andrew Bogut, Utah	7-0	242	So.
F	Odartey Blankson, UNLV	6-7	220	Sr.
(Matt Nelson, Colorado State	7-1	270	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G/F	Mike Hall, Brigham Young	6-3	205	Sr.
G	Jay Straight, Wyoming	5-11	178	Sr.
G	Tim Keller, Air Force	6-3	185	Sr.
F	Marcus Slaughter, San Diego St.	6-8	211	So.
C	Nick Welch, Air Force	6-8	215	Jr.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Danny Granger, F, New Mexico

He does so many things well and is willing to take responsibility for leading his team. Granger can score big, rebound big, pass and defend. He's a big reason why New



Mexico has a legitimate shot to get back to the NCAA Tournament. He's a versatile player who can spot up on the perimeter for a 3-point shot or muscle his way to the basket from the low block. He's also unselfish—perhaps to a fault. Would coach Ritchie McKay trade Granger for anyone in the Mountain West? Highly unlikely.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Justin Williams, F/C, Wyoming

He could be the key to helping Wyoming bounce back quickly from an 11-17 season. He was rated among the top three junior college centers a year ago, and he's a big-time shot blocker. He also can score inside—and the Cowboys really need a consistent post threat. Williams figures to be an impact player right away.

MOST UNDERRATED

Matt Williams, F, Colorado State

He plays in the shadow of center Matt Nelson, but Williams always seems to get the key rebound or putback and often contests an opponent's shot enough that it misses the mark. He never takes a play off, and he's more than willing to do the dirty work.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Tim Keller, Air Force Best playmaker: Jerel Blassingame, UNLV Best NBA prospect: Andrew Bogut, Utah Best defender: Mike Hall, Brigham Young Most versatile: Danny Granger, New Mexico

WHAT WE LIKE: How new coach Ray Giacoletti managed to keep everyone on board, we'll never know. It was a feat convincing Australian big man Andrew Bogut to return to college for his sophomore year. And don't underestimate the job Giacoletti did keeping Tim Drisdom, Richard Chaney, Bryant Markson and Justin Hawkins. They are all extremely talented players, and with Bogut make the Utes the team to beat. Veteran guard Marc Jackson returns for his third tour (he missed one season on a church mission and sat out another) and will give the Utes an instant-energy guy off the bench. All the components are in place for a return trip to the NCAA Tournament.

WHAT SCARES US: Though Utah has size, athleticism and experience, it will miss the toughness and scoring ability of Nick Jacobson, who often came up big in the clutch. The Utes also will miss Tim Frost's savvy and size. Frost took pressure off Bogut by averaging 9.0 points. And as good a coach as Giacoletti has been at Eastern Washington, he has a big sweater to fill after the departure of Rick Majerus. The Utes enjoyed great success during Majerus' 15-year run.

X-FACTOR: Don't be fooled by Hawkins' numbers. He might have averaged only 5.3 points as a freshman, but that was in a system where he was relegated to a complementary role. Hawkins has abundant talent. He has the ability to create his own scoring opportunities, and Utah is going to need a slashing-type player who can take pressure off Bogut. Hawkins could be just what Giacoletti needs to pump up the Utes' attack.

SCHEDULE

N19 Stony Brook	D8 Western Montana	D22 at Cal Poly	J5 Whitworth	J22 New Mexico	F7 at UNLV	F21 at New Mexico
N25-27 Great Alaska Shootout	D11 at Arizona	D28 Weber St.	J10 UNLV	J24 Air Force	F12 Colorado St.	F26 BYU
N30 Southern Utah	D17 Northern Colorado	D30 Colorado	J15 at Wyoming	J31 at BYU	F14 Wyoming	M5 San Diego St.
D4 at Utah St.	D20 Coppin State	J3 LSU	J17 at Colorado St.	F5 at San Diego St.	F19 at Air Force	

LINLV

WHAT WE LIKE: The Rebels have the best point guard in the league, the best rebounding forward and an explosive scorer who all are hungry. Jerel Blassingame broke out once Charlie Spoonhour's son Jay took over in mid-February and pushed the tempo. New coach Lon Kruger promises the team will continue to run, so Blassingame could have a huge year. Romel Beck also thrives in a faster pace. He played much of last year at small forward but will move to shooting guard, which is a better fit. Odartey Blankson toyed with going pro in the spring but opted to return to school. He's primed for a big senior year after leading the team in scoring (17.6) and rebounding (10.2).

WHAT SCARES US: UNLV might be strong on the perimeter, but it's untested up front. The loss of center J.K. Edwards will hurt, and Louis Amundson needs to finally step up and show he can be relied upon every night. He has battled injuries, and if he can stay healthy and compete every night, it will greatly benefit the team. Even with junior college transfers Dustin Villepigue (who spent his freshman season at Gonzaga) and Joel Anthony, there's not a lot of front-line depth. That only will put added pressure on the backcourt.

X-FACTOR: Wilbur Williams has been dormant for a year after playing with Beck and Blassingame on Los Angeles City College's 2003 state championship team. Now they're reunited. Williams plays with great energy. He will be perfect to spell Blankson or play a regular role at small forward should Blankson return to power forward. His ability to do the little things well makes him valuable.

SCHEDULE

N23 St. Mary's D8 at Pepperdine	D22 Florida Atlantic	J10 at Utah	J29 at New Mexico	F9 Missouri	F26 Air Force
N26 Oregon St. D12 at Auburn	D29 Texas-Pan Am	J15 San Diego St.	J31 at Air Force	F12 at San Diego St.	F28 New Mexico
D1 at California D18 Oklahoma St.	J2 at Texas	J22 Colorado St.	F5 BYU	F19 at Wyoming	M5 at BYU
D4 at Nevada D21 Gardner-Webl	JS Fort Lewis	J24 Wyoming	F7 Utah	F21 at Colorado St.	

UTES DATA

Coach: Ray Giacoletti (1st year; 69-50 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament, 0-

Assistant coaches: Randy Rahe (1st year), Mike Score (1st), Marty Wilson

2003-04 record: 24-9. MWC: 9-5/3rd. Lost to Boston College in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2003.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001.

Site: Salt Lake City. Website: www.utahutes.com

Home court: Jon M. Huntsman Center (15,000).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	F/C	Andrew Bogut*	7-0/242	So.	12.5	9.9	2.2	57.7	64.0	36.4
3	G	Jermaine Calvin	5-8/170	Fr.	Great	distri	butor a	veraged	9.1 apg	last year.
13	G/F	Richard Chaney*	6-4/193	Jr.	9.5	4.2	1.0	49.4	82.2	41.5
11	G	Tim Drisdom*	6-3/214	Jr.	6.1	3.7	3.6	42.1	78.9	34.0
5	F	Justin Hawkins	6-5/217	So.	5.3	3.2	0.9	42.4	67.9	23.8
10	G	Casey Iverson	6-1/190	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	is a soli	d 3-poin	t shoote	r.
30	C	Chris Jackson	6-11/247	Jr.	3.4	2.6	0.2	70.5	54.5	-
2	G	Marc Jackson	6-1/182	Sr.	Took	the 2	003-04	season	off.	
51	F	Jonas Langvad	6-9/220	So.	1.6	1.8	1.0	30.0	0.0	14.3
20	F	Bryant Markson	6-6/197	Jr.	2.2	1.7	0.6	35.3	71.9	0.0
50	C	Luke Nevill	7-0/240	Fr.	Austr	alian	only has	played	for four	years.
32	F	Jake Schmidt	6-8/260	Fr.	2003	-04 W	yoming	player o	f the year	ar.
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.			Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C/F	Tin	n Frost*	6-10/236	9.0	4	.6	1.4	45.8	64.6	29.4
G/F	Nic	k Jacobson*	6-4/200	16.5	7	2	13	43.5	83.7	43.6

Josh Olsen 6-1/180 2.4 1.0 1.6 40.0 88.9 40.0

REBELS DATA

Coach: Lon Kruger (1st year; 318-233 overall, 18 years; NCAA Tournament 11-9). Assistant coaches: Steve Henson (1st year), Lew Hill (1st), Marvin Menzies

2003-04 record: 18-13. MWC: 7-7/4th. Lost to Boise State in NIT first round. Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie).

Last NCAA appearance: 2000

Site: Las Vegas. Website: www.unlvrebels.com Home court: Thomas & Mack Center (18,500).

ROSTFR

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*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pr	ojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
22	F	Louis Amundson	6-9/230	Jr.	4.5	4.1	0.4	52.5	52.2	0.0
30	(Joel Anthony	6-9/240	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	is a stro	ng shot l	blocker.	
1	G/F	Romel Beck*	6-7/185	Sr.	14.2	2.0	0.9	48.7	77.7	38.5
42	G	Robert Berkey	6-4/190	Jr.	Las V	egas n	ative is	a walk-o	n.	
0	F	Odartey Blankson*	6-7/220	Sr.	17.6	10.2	1.5	52.5	79.1	36.4
10	G	Jerel Blassingame	5-10/170	Sr.	11.2	1.7	6.6	38.3	70.9	40.2
31	G	Colin Darfour	6-0/180	Sr.	Walk	on pla	ayed jus	t one mi	nute las	t season.
24	G/F	Andy Hannan	6-6/210	Sr.	0.8	0.7	0.1	15.0	75.0	12.5
11	G	Ricky Morgan	6-0/190	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	started	college p	lay at lo	wa State.
20	G	Jonathan Osborne	6-2/180	So.	Playe	d 10 n	ninutes	as a fres	hman.	
5	G/F	Curtis Terry	6-5/200	Fr.	Young	ger br	other of	Maveric	ks' Jason	Terry.
3	G	Michael Umeh	6-2/185	So.	2.8	1.1	0.6	44.4	68.4	33.3
41	F	Dustin Villepigue	6-9/235	Jr.	JC tr	ansfe	r origin	ally play	ed for (Gonzaga.
15	F	Wilbur Williams	6-3/190	Jr.	Form	er Los	Angele	s CC play	er.	
33	G	John Winston	6-3/205	50.	1.4	0.9	1.9	40.0	50.0	27.3
KE	Y LO	SSES								
Pos.	Nai	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
C	J.K	. Edwards*	6-8/250	11.6	6	.4	1.3	57.9	70.5	25.0
G	Dei	metrius Hunter*	6-2/210	7.1	1	.7	1.1	36.9	74.4	33.1
F	Jan	nes Peters	6-8/215	6.3	3	3	0.5	54.4	57.6	50.0

3. Air Force

WHAT WE LIKE: This team has learned how to win, which was foreign to the program for years. The Falcons know they belong in the Mountain West, and despite Joe Scott's departure to take the coaching job at Princeton, that feeling should linger at Clune Arena. Senior Tim Keller and juniors Nick Welch and Antoine Hood certainly aren't going to permit a slide backward—at least in terms of attitude. Keller has developed into a top-notch two-way player, Welch is one of the best centers in the league, and Hood matches up athletically with just about anyone in the conference.

WHAT SCARES US: Chris Mooney was at Scott's side the entire time he rebuilt the program, but Mooney never has been a head coach at this level. Yes, he knows the Princeton-style system Scott installed and will keep using it. Still, you have to wonder how the players will react to Mooney, who isn't quite as intense as Scott. The Falcons are also going to be without two key components from last year's record season: A.J. Kuhle and Joel Gerlach. They were tough competitors who had mastered the system. Replacing them will be hard.

X-FACTOR: Traditionally, Air Force is on the smallish side. But Mooney has been blessed with some size. John Frye and Jon Black may have trouble squeezing into a cockpit at 6-9, but they will fit just fine on a basketball court. Along with Welch, they will be able to help the Falcons match up better against the bigger teams. How much Mooney is willing to play the youngsters hasn't been determined, but at least he has an option of going big if need be.

SCHEDULE

N14-16 BCA Classic	D2	Northern Colorado	D28	at Iowa	J8	Colorado St.	J24	at Utah	F7	at Colorado St.	F26	at UNLV
N21 Alcorn St.	D6	Colorado College	D31	Rutgers	J11	at St. Mary's	J29	San Diego St.	F14	at New Mexico	F28	at San Diego St.
N26 at IPFW	D11	at Georgia Tech	J3	Navy	J15	New Mexico	J31	UNLV	F19	Utah	M5	Wyoming
N28 at Wisconsin-Milwaukee	D13	at Lamar	15	Texas-Pan Am	J22	at BYU	F5	at Wyoming	F21	BYU		

Ч. New Менісо

WHAT WE LIKE: Having one of the top performers in the league is always a good start. Danny Granger, a 6-8 senior forward, led the conference in scoring with a 19.5-point average, performing well despite being the focus of opposing defenses. Granger is going to have more help this year. Troy DeVries finished strong last season and provides the Lobos with a legitimate perimeter scoring threat. He averaged 10.7 points and will get more touches as a senior. David Chiotti is an underrated post man who brings toughness and takes the rebounding pressure off Granger. Alfred Neale, another rebounder and inside scoring threat, rounds out a core of experienced players.

WHAT SCARES US: There's a lot of untested talent coming on board, and no one's sure what the newcomers will provide. If Granger gets injured, who will step into his role as go-to guy? Would DeVries inherit that responsibility? Point guard is a huge question mark. Javin Tindall was a better point man than people gave him credit for, and he will be missed. Will freshman Darren Prentice or JC transfer Kris Collins step right in and play at a high level?

X-FACTOR: Mark Walters never got going last season because of a knee injury. If the 6-2 junior can regain his form and confidence, he will become a vital cog in New Mexico's postseason hopes. He has ability and is one of the most athletic players on the team. A healthy, productive Walters teaming with Granger and DeVries makes the Lobos a dangerous team offensively—one that will make life tough on perimeter defenses.

FALCONS DATA

Coach: Chris Mooney (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Jon Jordan, (4 years), Larry Mangino (4), Mike McKee (3), A.J. Kuhle (1st), Kevin McGeehan (1st).

2003-04 record: 22-7. MWC: 12-2/1st. Lost to North Carolina in NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Colorado Springs, Colo. Website: www.airforcesports.com

Home court: Clune Arena (5,939).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
	G	Tim Anderson	6-2/170	Fr.	Could	challe	enge for	minute	s immed	iately.
	C	Jon Black	6-9/200	Fr.	Gives	the te	am son	ne neede	d size.	
42	C	Caleb Buchanan	6-7/230	Sr.	1.5	1.0	0.3	38.7	66.7	14.3
21	F	Jacob Burtschi	6-6/205	So.	3.7	2.5	0.7	46.2	26.3	28.3
20	G	Jared Dillinger	6-4/190	So.	1.1	0.6	0.3	50.0	83.3	0.0
54	C	John Frye	6-9/190	So.	0.0	0.3	0.2	-	_	-
35	F	Marc Holum	6-6/195	Jr.	Redsh	nirt lef	t schoo	for one	year.	
15	G	Antoine Hood*	6-5/189	Jr.	10.4	3.2	1.5	55.4	66.2	40.8
11	G	Tim Keller*	6-3/185	Sr.	11.0	2.1	2.1	41.6	80.2	35.0
	F	Keith Maren	6-8/220	Fr.	Helpe	d lead	Air For	ce prep	squad.	
5	G	Matt McCraw	6-2/180	So.	3.2	0.7	0.5	46.3	90.9	48.5
34	F	Dan Nwaelele	6-4/200	So.	2.4	0.8	0.7	41.5	80.0	31.8
40	C	David Peterson	6-8/205	Sr.	1.2	0.7	0.6	37.5	50.0	37.5
24	F	Ryan Teets	6-5/188	So.	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
45	C	Nick Welch*	6-8/215	Jr.	11.4	4.0	2.9	54.2	71.8	42.0
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Joe	l Gerlach*	6-6/195	8.0	2.	.3	1.0	46.2	68.8	41.5
G/F	A.J	. Kuhle*	6-4/185	8.1	3.	1	3.1	49.4	73.5	41.9

LOBOS DATA

Coach: Ritchie McKay (24-32, 2 years; 107-121 overall, 8 years). Assistant coaches: Brad Soucie (2 years), Scott Didrickson (2), Duane Broussard (2).

2003-04 record: 14-14. MWC: 5-9/T5th. Last regular-season title: 1994 (WAC). Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Albuquerque, N.M. Website: www.golobos.com Home court: The Pit/Bob King Court (18,018).

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*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	projected 200	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
13	C	David Chiotti*	6-9/240	Jr.	12.5	5.3	1.6	54.8	70.4	_
15	G	Kris Collins	6-2/195	Jr.	Phys	ical pe	oint gu	ard fron	lowa l	Nestern.
30	G/F	Tony Danridge	6-5/200	Fr.	Top p	rep pla	ayer in !	Southern	Californ	nia's DII.
2	G	Troy DeVries*	6-3/190	Sr.	10.7	2.9	3.0	44.4	64.6	44.6
33	F	Danny Granger*	6-8/220	Sr.	19.5	9.0	2.1	49.1	76.0	33.3
22	G	Jeff Hart	6-1/170	Jr.	1.2	0.4	0.3	47.1	100.0	50.0
21	F	Alfred Neale*	6-5/200	Sr.	8.8	5.4	1.3	41.7	69.1	33.6
00	F	Bombale Osby	6-7/240	Fr.	Pulle	d dow	n 16.8 r	pg as a l	nigh sch	ool senior
35	F	Sean Phaler	6-9/180	Fr.	Redsl	nirted	after a	major ca	r accide	nt in 2003
24	G	Darren Prentice	6-1/170	Fr.	Quick	guard	who w	vill battle	for tim	e at point
20	G	Ryan Wall	6-0/160	So.	1.0	1.0	1.0	17.6	64.3	100.0
1	F	Kellen Walter	6-10/205	So.	2.1	0.8	0.0	54.5	50.0	44.4
5	G	Mark Walters	6-2/220	Jr.	4.9	2.9	1.4	35.7	72.7	33.3
KE	YLC	SSES								
Pos.		me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Jus	stin Benson	6-8/240	1.3		.8	0.2	39.4	37.5	0.0

6-0/195

5-11/165 12.6

2.9

1.1

2.0

0.8 46.8

3.5

44.1

SCHEDULE

Annual Control of the	20 100		242 2 3	14	460	162.0	2017000		10 to 10	27.0	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
N12-14 NABC Classic	D1 New	Mexico St.	D18 Tennessee	J8	Wyoming	J29	UNLV	F14	Air Force	F28	at UNLV
N19 Western New Mexico	D4 at N	ew Mexico St.	D22 Wake Forest	J15	at Air Force	J31	San Diego St.	F19	BYU	M5	Colorado St.
N22 at Oregon	D9 Nort	thern Colorado	D28-29 Lobo Invitation	nal J22	at Utah	F5	at Colorado St.	F21	Utah		
N27 Northern Arizona	D12 Arka	ansas-Pine Bluff	J3 at Texas-Arlingto	n J24	at BYU	F7	at Wyoming	F26	at San Diego St.		

Lenny Miles

Javin Tindall*

75.0

83.1

39.5

41.9

Colorado State

WHAT WE LIKE: There's talent at virtually every position. Matt Nelson is a quality big man, Matt Williams is an excellent rebounder and inside scorer, Micheal Morris is a lightning-quick guard with great jumping ability and Dwight Boatner knows how to run a game from the point. Coach Dale Layer has done his part by recruiting well over the last couple years. Colorado State doesn't have to rely on any one person to carry the team, though it could be argued that as Nelson goes, so go the Rams. He is that dominant when healthy.

WHAT SCARES US: Nelson, at 7-1, is constantly battling injuries, and that's a major concern. It's hard to develop continuity when your best player misses practice because he is being rested for games. Stephen Verwers, who did a nice job as a freshman backup for Nelson, might have to repeat that performance. This team struggled down the stretch last season, losing seven straight games in February. The Rams did beat Air Force in the conference tournament, but the team didn't play its best when it counted most.

X-FACTOR: Freddy Robinson came to Colorado State two years ago with the reputation of being an athletic scorer—someone who can create his own offense. Robinson has shown signs from time to time, but now he must show he can do it consistently. Playing off Boatner and Morris, two other athletic types, he should be able get himself open and the rest is elementary—just knock down the shots. But Robinson first must get healthy from August surgery to repair a partially torn Achilles' tendon.

SCHEDULE.

DO! ILDULL						
N20 Regis	N30 at Auburn	D18 at Colorado	J3 at Pepperdine	J22 at UNLV	F7 Air Force	F21 UNLV
N22 Northern Colorado	D4 Drake	D21 Texas St.	J8 at Air Force	J24 at San Diego St.	F12 at Utah	F26 Wyoming
N24 Nebraska-Omaha	D7 Montana St.	D28 Stetson	J15 BYU	J29 at Wyoming	F14 at BYU	M5 at New Mexico
N27 at IUPUI	D11 at Purdue	D30 Denver	J17 Utah	F5 New Mexico	F19 San Diego St.	

WHAT WE LIKE: The Cougars don't have much experience, but in Mike Hall, Garner Meads and Jared Jensen, coach Steve Cleveland has three strong players to build around. Hall is poised for a huge season. He stepped up big as a junior and averaged 12.8 points and 3.5 rebounds. He will get more touches this year, and that should translate into more points. Meads never has lived up to the hype that preceded him out of high school, but he's a good player who might yet fulfill his promise. Jensen is a bulldog who plays hard every night. All three have tasted success, and Cleveland hopes it will rub off on the newcomers, one of whom, Keena Young, should make a significant impact at Mark Bigelow's old spot.

WHAT SCARES US: BYU lost the top big man in the league when Rafael Araujo graduated. And the losses of Bigelow and point guard Kevin Woodberry were additional blows. The point is a huge question. Does Cleveland go with last year's understudy, Terry Nashif? Or does he hand the reins to unproven sophomore Austin Ainge? Or will he shift gears altogether and let JC transfer Josh Reisman take over? Nashif is likely to get first crack at the job.

X-FACTOR: When Mike Rose steps on the floor and gets his hands on the ball, good things happen for BYU. The nephew of assistant coach Dave Rose is a long-range zone-buster who shot 45.9 percent from beyond the 3-point arc last year. If he can match that number while getting more looks, the Cougars can stretch opposing defenses and create inside scoring opportunities for Meads and Jensen.

SCHEDULE			170		7 4/1/2 2/4	27.5
N22-24 Maui Invitational	D8 Boise St.	D21 N.C. State	J4 at St. Mary's	J17 at Wyoming	FS at UNLV	F19 at New Mexico
N27 California	D11 Washington St.	D23 at Weber St.	J8 San Diego St.	J22 Air Force	F7 at San Diego St.	F21 at Air Force
D1 at Utah St.	Salt Lake City	D28 Southern Utah	J11 Montana StBilling	s J24 New Mexico	F12 Wyoming	F26 at Utah
D4 at USC	D18 Utah St.	D31 Santa Clara	J15 at Colorado St.	J31 Utah	F14 Colorado St.	M5 UNLY

RAMS DATA

Coach: Dale Layer (59-61, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1)

Assistant coaches: Bill Peterson (4 years), Pat Eberhart (2), Owen Miller (1st).

2003-04 record: 13-16. MWC: 4-10/T7th. Last regular-season title: 1990 (WAC). Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Fort Collins, Colo. Website: www.csurams.com

Home court: Moby Arena (8,745).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	4-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G	Nick Ball	6-2/170	Sr.	1.2	0.5	0.5	31.3	_	23.1
5	G	Dwight Boatner	6-0/170	So.	5.8	1.7	1.5	39.6	76.3	41.2
22	G	Ryan Brown	6-0/185	Fr.	Walk	on fro	m Texa:	s able to	put up l	oig points.
30	(Stuart Creason	7-0/250	Fr.	Reds	hirted	in 2003	-04.		
55	G	Charlie Jones	5-11/160	Fr.	Pass-	first g	uard; Se	ean Morr	is' H.S. t	eammate.
2	G	Brian Lohrey	6-5/185	Sr.	0.6	0.3	0.2	33.3	50.0	100.0
32	G	Micheal Morris*	6-3/208	Jr.	7.3	3.3	4.0	41.0	71.0	25.0
1	G	Sean Morris	5-10/160	Fr.	Broth	er of t	eamma	te Miche	al Morri	is.
54	C	Matt Nelson*	7-1/270	Sr.	15.6	5.7	1.3	59.1	81.8	-
21	G	Andrew Patterson	6-4/195	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer :	shoots v	well and	adds to	ughness.
10	G	Jon Rakiecki	6-3/200	Sr.	5.7	2.5	1.5	35.2	70.8	36.6
13	G/F	Freddy Robinson*	6-5/200	Jr.	8.9	3.0	1.0	44.4	62.9	36.5
14	F	Jason Smith	7-0/215	Fr.	Domi	inant b	oig-man	runs the	e floor b	eautifully.
11	F	Phillip Thomasson	6-7/210	So.	3.2	1.6	0.7	44.7	71.9	22.2
34	F	Stephen Verwers	6-10/225	So.	2.3	2.0	0.3	56.5	55.2	-
42	F	Matt Williams*	6-6/212	Sr.	10.4	5.5	1.6	46.6	71.2	0.0
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RE	PG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Ro	nnie Clark*	6-5/210	10.0	5	.4	0.9	50.7	66.3	14.3
G/F	She	elton Johnson	6-3/205	4.8	2	.9	1.5	43.5	46.2	41.0
G	De	rick Stevens	5-11/180	2.4	0	.7	0.7	26.4	80.0	25.0

COUGARS DATA

Coach: Steve Cleveland (129-87, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3). Assistant coaches: Dave Rose (7 years), Andy Toolson (3), John Wardenburg (3). 2003-04 record: 21-9. MWC: 10-4/2nd. Lost to Syracuse in the NCAA Phoenix Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002. Site: Provo, Utah. Website: www.byucougars.com Home court: Marriott Center (22,700).

30	ST	ER									
*200	*2003-04 starter; bold names: projected 2004-05 starter										
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
13	G	Austin Ainge	6-2/180	So.	1.3	0.4	0.8	50.0	50.0	25.0	
22	G	Jimmy Balderson	6-6/200	So.	Back	from a	two-y	ear missi	on.		
34	C	David Burgess	6-10/265	Fr.	Was	on 200	3 U.S. J	unior Wo	orld Char	np. team.	
4	F	Joshua Burgess	6-8/230	Jr.	Walk	on rec	dshirte	d last sea	son.		
20	G	Sam Burgess	6-3/190	So.	3-poi	nt spec	ialist b	ack from	a two-ye	ar mission.	
43	C	Derek Dawes	6-11/265	So.	Redsl	nirted	last yea	ar after to	wo-year	mission.	
1	G/F	Mike Hall*	6-3/205	Sr.	12.8	3.5	1.8	49.4	73.1	34.8	
52	F/C	Jared Jensen	6-9/250	Sr.	3.8	2.1	0.2	53.6	72.4	-	
41	F	Garner Meads*	6-8/230	So.	4.2	2.9	0.3	54.0	64.4	0.0	
54	F	Chris Miles	6-10/225	Fr.				ate MVP	twice.		
10	G	Terry Nashif	5-10/165	Sr.	1.0	1.0	1.1	27.3	77.8	23.1	
44	F	Trent Plaisted	6-10/220	Fr.						rebound.	
5	G	Josh Reisman	6-1/180	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	olayed	for Gonza	aga in '0:	2-03.	
2	G	Mike Rose	6-2/180	So.	3.9	0.7	700	42.0		45.9	
3		Keena Young	6-6/200	So.	JC tr	ansfer	is a s	trong mi	d-range	shooter.	
KE'	Y LO	SSES									
Pos.	Nai	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
C	Raf	ael Araujo*	6-11/265	18.4	10	.0	1.2	57.3	72.2	26.7	
F	Ma	rk Bigelow*	6-7/190	13.4	3	.8	2.8	43.0	80.6	29.1	
G	Lui	z Lemes*	6-3/175	8.7	3	.0	4.5	44.1	75.0	42.4	
G	Key	vin Woodberry	6-0/170	5.0	1	.9	2.1	39.5	68.8	37.5	

7. San Diego State

WHAT WE LIKE: Marcus Slaughter was a nice pickup for Steve Fisher. Slaughter had an outstanding freshman year and should emerge as one of the league's premier players. He didn't score like a superstar but was an outstanding rebounder and is going to be relied on to do more of both this season. Fellow sophomore Brandon Heath started quickly but faded down the stretch, and it was an important learning experience. Seniors Wesley Stokes and Chris Walton will see lots of action, and Stokes' veteran leadership at point guard will be critical to turning things around. If big JC transfer Mohamed Camara can play at all, the Aztecs will have a much-needed inside presence.

WHAT SCARES US: Can Camara play? Aerick Sanders was a work-horse at center and will be missed. Both Stokes and Heath are extremely talented, but tend to be erratic. And this is a team that needs consistency out of its backcourt. Travis Hanour was supposed to be a big-time player after transferring from Arizona two years ago, but injuries have held him back. He has played only 453 minutes total in three years and started just eight games. Trimaine Davis and Tommy Johnson have yet to live up to their potential.

X-FACTOR: John Sharper showed he can fill a critical role as an instant energy guy off the bench. The 6-0 junior can shoot, and he's a decent enough defender. He played about 18 minutes a night last season and was San Diego State's best long-distance threat, hitting 40 percent from 3-point range. He should get more minutes and more touches this season because he has a proven track record.

AZTECS DATA

Coach: Steve Fisher (70-79, 5 years; 254-161 overall, 13 years; NCAA Tournament 20-7; won NCAA title with Michigan in 1989).

Assistant coaches: Brian Dutcher (5 years), Gregg Gottlieb (5).

2003-04 record: 14-16. MWC: 5-9/T5th.

Last regular-season title: 1978 (tie, Pacific Coast Athletic Association).

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: San Diego. Website: www.goaztecs.com

Home court: Cox Arena (12,414).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pro	ojected 2004	-05 st	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
50	C	Mohamed Camara	6-11/260	Jr.	The t	eam's	best b	et to fill	Sander	s' shoes.
20	F	Trimaine Davis	6-8/223	Jr.	1.5	1.0	0.1	47.8	66.7	-
5	G	Travis Hanour	6-7/203	Sr.	Has p	layed ir	18 gan	nes becar	use of kn	ee injuries.
1	G	Brandon Heath*	6-4/165	So.	13.8	2.7	1.8	39.1	70.0	30.0
0	G	Tommy Johnson	6-4/192	Sr.	4.0	1.9	1.0	36.3	69.7	26.3
33	C	Chris Manker	7-0/214	Sr.	3.4	2.3	0.3	37.8	42.9	35.7
15	G	John Sharper	6-0/185	Jr.	4.1	0.9	0.9	39.2	77.8	40.0
42	F	Marcus Slaughter*	6-8/211	So.	7.9	6.8	0.7	47.3	72.4	33.3
2	G	Wesley Stokes*	6-0/166	Sr.	12.1	2.3	5.8	36.7	72.5	29.7
21	G	Matt Thomas	6-4/195	Fr.	Versa	tile. Ha	d 16.2	ppg, 9.5	rpg last	season.
3	F	Chris Walton*	6-9/218	Sr.	8.7	4.9	2.3	41.2	63.8	34.8
10	G	Shawn Weinstein	6-1/178	Fr.	A loca	al walk	on wit	h ballha	ndling s	kills.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
F/C	Aerick Sanders*	6-9/203	16.1	9.8	1.0	55.4	70.7	0.0	

SCHEDULE

N19 UC Santa Barbara	D4 at UC Santa Barbara	D18 at Loyola Marymount	J8 at BYU	J29 at Air Force	F12 UNLV	F28 Air Force
N22 Monmouth	D7 at Washington	D21 Cal State Fullerton	J15 at UNLV	J31 at New Mexico	F19 at Colorado St.	M5 at Utah
N27 UC San Diego	D11 California	D28 at lowa St.	J22 Wyoming	F5 Utah	F21 at Wyoming	
D1 San Diego	D14 Saint Mary's	J3 South Dakota St.	J24 Colroado St.	F7 BYU	F26 New Mexico	

8. Wyoming

WHAT WE LIKE: The Cowboys have experience at the critical positions—point guard and center—with seniors Jay Straight and Alex Dunn. Straight, a second-team all-conference pick, averaged 15.7 points last season and was the only conference player to rank in the top five in points, assists and steals. Dunn parlayed a good summer into an excellent junior season, leading Wyoming in rebounding with a 5.6 average. He is one of the top big men in the league. Senior shooting guard Dion Sherrell had a tough time making the transition from junior college, but last year's experience should serve him well this season. Expect better things from him.

WHAT SCARES US: Despite the experience of Straight, Dunn and Sherrell, this is a young team coming off an 11-17 season. There's 10 newcomers, including three freshmen, and word is that Steve Leven, who redshirted last year, is ready to make a significant contribution at shooting guard. Coach Steve McClain always has recruited junior colleges well, and this year's crop, which includes Kevin Lewis, Justin Williams, Derek Wabbington and Chris Anderson, is a good one. The sooner they adjust to Division I, the quicker this team will get better.

X-FACTOR: Can Sherrell pick up his scoring? McClain brought him in to score, and Sherrell shot 35.7 percent from the floor and 34.2 percent on 3s. He spent the summer working on his shot and must double his 6.5-point average for Wyoming to climb out of the cellar. He knows now what it takes to compete at this level, and McClain will give him a chance to prove he can be a quality scorer.

COMBOYS DATA

Coach: Steve McClain (111-69, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 1-1).

Assistant coaches: John Adams (6 years), Leroy Washington (4), Silvey

Dominguez (1).

2003-04 record: 11-17. MWC: 4-10/T7th. Last regular-season title: 2002.

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Laramie, Wyo. Website: www.wyomingathletics.com

Home court: Arena-Auditorium (15,028).

ROSTER

HU:	DIEH								
*200	3-04 starter; bold names; pr	ojected 2004	I-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34	F Chris Anderson	6-8/210	So.	Runs t	he cou	irt well	and car	hit the	3.
50	C Jarrod Boswell	7-0/265	Fr.	Redsh	irt will	be elic	jible afte	er fall se	mester.
12	G Josh Dees	6-1/180	Fr.	Redsh	irted in	2003	-04; a go	od defe	nder.
13	F/C Alex Dunn*	7-0/240	Sr.	8.1	5.6	0.2	55.5	60.5	_
14	G James Ebert	6-2/195	Jr.	Excelle	ent per	rimeter	scoring	threat.	
11	G Abdullah Lawal	6-1/210	Fr.	Point	guard	from Pl	ano, Tex	as.	
1	G Steve Leven	6-5/190	So.	Texas	transi	fer is e	ligible;	an athle	tic scorer.
5	G/F Kevin Lewis	6-6/190	Jr.	JC reci	uit is a	ble to	drive or	score fro	m outside.
4	G Dion Sherrell	6-4/210	Sr.	6.5	2.4	0.8	35.7	77.8	34.2
45	F/C Benny Songondo	6-10/205	Fr.	Nigeri	an dec	omitte	d from L	JSC in Ju	ine.
3	G Jay Straight*	5-11/178	Sr.	15.7	3.4	3.8	42.1	76.2	33.3
54	F Derek Wabbington	6-9/235	Jr.	Leftha	anded	JC rec	ruit wa	s highly	coveted.
2	G/F Jerry Webb	6-5/215	Sr.	1.7	1.3	0.4	38.7	50.0	27.3
21	F/C Justin Williams	6-10/215	Jr.	Dunk	machi	ne also	is a goo	d shot b	locker.
KEY	LOSSES								
Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G /	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	David Adams*	6-2/185	9.0	3.	7	1.4	44.4	75.9	43.9
F	Mory Correa*	6-9/222	6.6	4.	5	0.6	47.9	61.8	_
F/C	Omoniyi Makun	6-8/220	3.4	2.3	8	0.3	53.6	70.4	_
F	Joe Ries*	6-8/225	7.9	5.	0	8.0	49.1	71.1	14.3
G/F	David Rottinghaus	6-5/200	3.5	1.0	6	0.9	44.1	66.7	31.6
G	Mikel Watson	6-1/175	5.9	1.0	6	1.6	32.6	50.0	27.8

SCHEDLILE

N19 Alcorn St.	D4 vs. Montana St.	D18 at Creighton	J4 Denver	J17 BYU	F5 Air Force	F19 UNLV
N22 Princeton	at Billings, Mont.	D22 Washington St.	J8 at New Mexico	J22 at San Diego St.	F7 New Mexico	F21 at Diego St.
N27 UT Arlington	D7 at Dayton	D28 San Diego	J10 IPFW	J24 at UNLV	F12 at BYU	F26 at Colorado St.
N30 at Arizona	D 11 Wyoming Shootout	D30 at Southern Illinois	J15 Utah	J29 Colorado St.	F14 at Utah	M5 at Air Force

Western Athlet

Quality of depth matches up against some of nation's best

Last season, the WAC had five teams win at least 21 games. Only two other conferences could make that claim-the Big East and Conference USA. Nevada, UTEP, Boise State, Hawaii and Rice all were ranked in the top 75 of the RPI. The Big Ten, Pac-10 and Mountain West didn't have as many teams ranked that high.

Despite its strong credentials, the WAC

still had to sweat out getting a second team in the NCAA Tournament. The good news is the conference can be even better this year, top to bottom. Any of seven teams can contend for the regular-season title. The conference might lack a Sweet 16-type team like Nevada was last year, but several squads could develop into one. Eight of the 10 teams will be improved, which should make for a very tight league race.

UTEP, an NCAA Tournament team that returns its core, is the favorite. Not even a coaching change (Doc Sadler replaces Billy Gillispie) should knock the Miners off their perch. Other changes at the top might play

a factor in the race, as Nevada and SMU also have new head coaches. Rice returns its top two players and could have a big year, as could Boise State, Hawaii and Louisiana Tech. Tulsa, Fresno State and San Jose State are still behind the pack unless some significant questions get answered.

The conference lacks a sure-fire NBA player after Nevada's Kirk Snyder went to the Utah Jazz. But plenty of talent remains, starting with Rice's Michael Harris and Jason McKrieth. Nick Fazekas (Nevada), Paul Millsap (Louisiana Tech) and Julian Sensley (Hawaii) can become superstars.

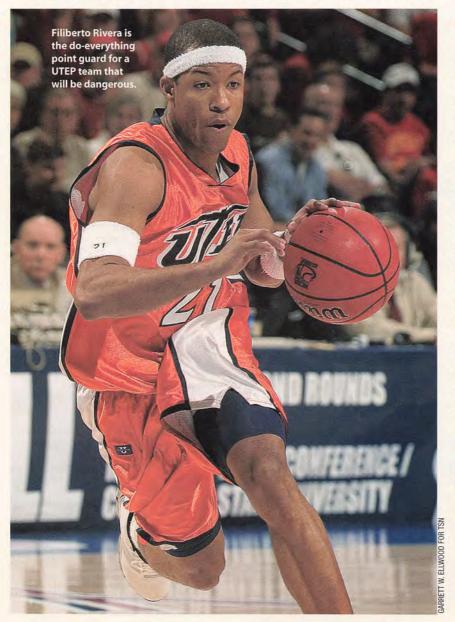
The WAC showcases two exciting point guards, UTEP's Filiberto Rivera is an All-American candidate, and SMU's Bryan Hopkins is a one-man highlight film. Youngsters Eric Lane (Boise State), Lyndale Burleson (Nevada) and Lorenzo Williams (Rice) are the next wave of stars who could start shining this season.

ASCENDING: Boise State. Sure the Broncos overachieved and finished tied for third last season, but third-year coach Greg Graham still was using holdovers from the previous staff. This season, 11 of the 12 scholarship players are his recruits. The one who isn't is Jason Ellis, who should become the school's all-time leading rebounder and a 1,000-point scorer this season. Last year's success has the community fired up, which will make newly christened Taco Bell Arena a tough place to play.

DESCENDING: Fresno State. The Bulldogs were 5-0 in WAC play last year when the the downward spiral started. Disciplinary problems led to the dismissal of three players, which forced Ray Lopes to dig into a bench that didn't exist. The turmoil from the Jerry Tarkanian days to last year's problems still haunts the program.

PLAYERS ON THE RISE:

1. Kevinn Pinkney, F, Nevada. He mostly was overshadowed last season by Snyder, gritty point guard Todd Okeson and Fazekas. But when the postseason rolled around, no one on the Wolf Pack roster was as good or as consistent as Pinkney, who averaged 12.5 points and 7.2 rebounds in six postseason games. The senior will shoulder a bigger



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	rall	
110	W	L	W	L	
Nevada	13	5	25	9	
UTEP	13	5	24	8	
Boise State	12	6	23	10	
Rice	12	6	22	11	
Hawaii	11	7	21	12	
Fresno State	10	8	14	15	
Louisiana Tech	8	10	15	15	
SMU	5	13	12	18	
Tulsa	5	13	9	20	
San Jose State	1	17	6	23	

RANKING THE 2004 RECRUITING CLASSES

- 1. Fresno State: Look for 6-9 F Hector Hernandez to vie for a starting spot, with sweet-shooting Chris Berry getting minutes, too. Prep teammate quards Dominique White and Donovan Morris add depth.
- 2. Nevada: Late addition Ramon Sessions tops off this bunch, but 7-footers Chad Bell and David Ellis could be a difference-making duo inside. JC wing Mo Charlo should become a starter.
- 3. UTEP: G Miguel Ayala and F Stanley Branch will contribute; Gs Kelvin Davis and Vernon Carr add toughness.
- 4. Southern Methodist: Athletic wing man Derrick Roberts will push for a starting job, as will 6-9 rebounder Ike Ofoegbu. Smooth-shooting prep recruit Jon Killen will help off the bench.
- 5. Tulsa: 6-8 JC bookends Yusuf Baker and Vernell Davis will compete for starting spots; 6-1 prep school point Deion James will be a pleasant surprise for the Hurricane this winter.
- 6. Hawaii: Athletic big man Chris Botez needs maturity and strength, but while he develops 6-9 Matt Gipson will start. Long-range JC bomber Matt Gibson will add instant offense on the wing.
- 7. Louisiana Tech: The best are JC players Michael Wilds, Daevon Haskins and Jason Bray.
- 8. San Jose State: The Spartans add numbers with six JCs. Up front, watch Matt Misko; Kenny Smith and Eric Bloom look like the best newcomers in the backcourt.
- 9. Rice: The Owls will get immediate help from rebounding big men Paulius Packevicius and 6-8 Patrick Britton. Rodney Foster adds depth in the backcourt.
- 10. Boise State: The team adds lots of size, but look for JC wings Kareem Lloyd and Seth Robinson to have biggest impacts this winter.

Van Coleman is publisher and editor of FutureStars Magazine and Scouting Service and is managing editor of Hoopmasters.com.

load this season, and he can handle it. 2. Julian Sensley, F, Hawaii. Sensley put up strong numbers last season even in a system that doesn't focus on the frontcourt. The junior runs the floor, shoots well and is long and athletic. A year into the system now, he should be a standout.

3. Eric Lane, G, Boise State. Lane played sparingly (11.8 minutes per game) as a freshman, backing up Joe Skiffer. It's Lane's team now, and his style better fits Graham's system. As his minutes triple, look for his numbers (4.8 ppg) to balloon, too. He has a sweet shooting touch (41.1 percent from 3-point range) and a crossover dribble move that buckles defenders' knees.

BEST BETS:

1. The WAC again will send five teams to postseason play. The conference will get two teams in the NCAA (and deserve three), and for the 11th straight year, a WAC team will win its first-round game. The NIT will invite three WAC schools to its tournament. 2. Louisiana Tech sophomore Paul Millsap again will lead the nation in rebounding. The sophomore also will add to his offensive repertoire and again average a very healthy double-double.

3. Technical fouls will not be called in either of the two games between Fresno State and Boise State. No one will confuse this as a battle between Ron Artest U. vs. Rasheed Wallace A&M, as both Fresno and Boise have gone more than 10 years since a technical foul was last called on either team's coach.

Nick Jezierny covers college sports for the Idaho Statesman in Boise.

2003-04 TEAM STATISTICS

TOTAL OFFENSE APG **BPG** TPG PPG Team G FG% FT% 3% RPG SPG UTEP 32 47.7 75.2 38.4 34.6 16.3 2.7 13.9 Nevada 34 45.3 72.9 34.3 38.9 14.1 6.4 4.5 13.1 75.9 Rice 33 47.4 71.0 35.0 34.2 14.9 8.3 3.5 16.0 74.1 **Boise State** 33 44.7 73.8 34.6 34.4 14.0 6.4 3.2 13.0 73.7 33 71.7 34.9 16.7 3.2 13.5 70.8 Hawaii 46.4 33.8 6.4 Tulsa 29 43.8 66.5 33.3 33.6 11.6 7.4 3.8 13.5 68.3 Louisiana Tech 2.9 30 43.1 66.0 31.7 39.3 11.1 16.5 67.0 SMU 30 43.1 67.2 32.4 31.6 12.5 7.5 2.9 14.6 64.6 Fresno State 29 43.3 70.4 36.7 35.4 13.8 5.1 2.9 13.7 62.8 San Jose State 29 42.7 66.0 37.5 29.5 12.4 1.6 13.3

TOTAL DEFENSE

Team	G	FG%	FT%	3%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TPG	PPG
Fresno State	29	41.3	68.7	32.3	29.5	13.1	6.3	2.3	10.0	61.8
Nevada	34	41.4	70.9	30.4	33.2	12.7	6.2	2.7	14.2	66.4
Louisiana Tech	30	42.1	69.2	35.8	32.3	13.5	7.3	2.7	13.1	66.5
Hawaii	33	43.5	64.8	32.4	34.1	11.5	6.7	2.5	14.1	67.1
Boise State	33	43.2	74.6	31.0	33.7	11.2	5.5	2.2	14.9	67.5
San Jose State	29	44.0	72.7	37.5	32.5	13.0	6.1	3.3	14.2	67.5
UTEP	32	41.6	68.8	33.6	34.7	12.8	5.8	4.0	16.3	67.5
SMU	30	44.6	71.1	33.2	35.6	15.2	8.2	3.2	13.8	68.7
Rice	33	44.8	69.5	33.3	33.5	14.7	7.7	3.3	16.2	70.0
Tulsa	29	42.2	69.6	35.5	39.3	13.3	6.4	2.8	14.2	71.7

PREDICTIONS

1.UTEP*	7. SMU
2. Rice*	8. Tulsa
3. Nevada	9. Fresno State
4. Boise State	10. San Jose State
5. Hawaii	*NCAA tourney pick
6 Louisiana Toch	A 1000

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIR	ST TEAM			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Filiberto Rivera, UTEP	6-2	175	Sr.
G	Jason McKrieth, Rice	6-4	210	Sr.
F/C	Nick Fazekas, Nevada	6-11	225	So.
F	Paul Millsap, Louisiana Tech	6-8	235	So.
F/C	Michael Harris, Rice	6-6	240	Sr.
SEC	COND TEAM			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Bryan Hopkins, SMU	6-0	195	Jr.
G	Corey Dean, Louisiana Tech	6-4	200	Sr.
G/F	Jermaine Blackburn, Boise St.	6-6	209	Sr.
F	Julian Sensley, Hawaii	6-9	235	Jr.
G/F	Omar Thomas, UTEP	6-5	205	Sr.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Michael Harris, F/C, Rice

He has been a force since his freshman season, and it's no secret why the Owls have improved as he has matured. His physical presence is hard to match, and his jump-



ing ability gives him an edge over other forwards. He shoots phenomenal percentages from the field (60.3 percent last season) and 3-point range (48.5 percent). Plus, you can't foul him because he knocks down his free throws. He's the primary reason Rice is thinking postseason again.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Matt Gipson, F, Hawaii

A big, skilled body in Hawaii's fundamental system is the perfect recipe for Gipson to have a monster season. The former Oklahoma player was plucked out of North Idaho College, where he was one of the highest ranked JC centers last season. Coach Riley Wallace has a keen ability to find players who fit into his system, and you can bet he's salivating over the prospects of Gipson. A strong supporting cast should benefit Gipson, too.

MOST UNDERRATED

Jason Williams, G/F, UTEP

He's not the first guy on this team to grab your attention, but he's one of Doc Sadler's most important players. Williams can score, lock up a player defensively, rebound and compete. He's the type of player every coach wants on his team.

HONOR ROLL

Best shooter: Franco Harris, Boise State Best playmaker: Filiberto Rivera, UTEP Best NBA prospect: Nick Fazekas, Nevada Best defender: Jason Ellis, Boise State Most versatile: Jermaine Blackburn, Boise St.

1. UTEP

WHAT WE LIKE: The Miners return most of last season's NCAA Tournament team, including point guard Filiberto Rivera. Rivera is the best point guard in the league, perhaps even the West. He can do it all—shoot, distribute, rebound and defend. His presence makes UTEP the team to beat in the conference, but he has plenty of help. Omar Thomas, who was a scoring machine off the bench last season, steps into a starting role. John Tofi was inconsistent as a sophomore, but he is a load who can do damage inside. The unsung hero is junior Jason Williams, who led the team in rebounding and was second in scoring and assists and third in blocked shots and steals. Giovanni St. Amant is no slouch at shooting guard, either.

WHAT SCARES US: Coach Billy Gillispie left for Texas A&M, and top assistant Sergio Rouco went to Florida International. New coach Doc Sadler has been a head coach before, but not at this level. Sadler will miss smart veteran players Roy Smallwood and Chris Craig. He needs to find a 3-point shooter to replace Craig. Sadler also will deal with something Gillispie never had—high expectations. The Miners won't sneak up on teams this year, and the schedule is more difficult than last season, when UTEP played 15 of its first 21 games at home.

X-FACTOR: What separated UTEP from many WAC teams last season was its depth. After the starting five, this season's roster is loaded with question marks. The team's success will be decided by how quickly Sadler can develop a bench. If Miguel Ayala, Vernon Carr or Kelvin Davis can emerge as shooters, the Miners will be tough to beat.

Texas Tech

D12 Okla. Panhandle St.

D15 at New Mexico St.

D18 New Mexico St.

D21 Occidental College

D27-28 Sun Bowl Tourn

at Boise St.

. at El Paso, Texas

J8 Tulsa

J13 at Nevada

J15 at Fresno St.

MINERS DATA

Coach: Doc Sadler (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Ed Custodio (1st year), Darrell Dickey (1st), James Holland (1st).

2003-04 record: 24-8. WAC: 13-5/T1st. Lost to Maryland in Phoenix Region first round.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie).

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.
Site: El Paso. Texas. Website: www.utepathletics.com

Home court: Don Haskins Center (12,222).

ROSTER

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Miguel Ayala	6-6/190	Jr.	Stron	g 3-pc	oint sho	oter and	rebound	ler.
F	Stanley Branch	6-8/210	Fr.	Prep s	choo	star wi	II provid	e help re	boundin
G	Vernon Carr	6-0/170	Fr.	Tough	lead	er who	can play	both gu	ard spots
G	Kelvin Davis	6-4/195	Fr.	Avera	ged 2	9 ppg a	s a senio	r.	
F	Thomas Gehrke	6-8/215	Sr.	1.5	1.4	0.6	22.7	67.7	16.7
G	Josh Gutierrez	5-11/150	So.	0.4	0.1	0.0	33.3	50.0	0.0
F	Brent Murphy	6-8/240	Jr.	2.7	1.2	0.2	47.6	76.5	44.0
F/C	Nathan Nixon	6-10/210	Fr.	Redsh	irted	for 200	3-04.		
G	Filiberto Rivera*	6-2/175	Sr.	11.2	3.1	4.8	44.3	77.9	34.3
G	Giovanni St. Amant	6-3/190	Jr.	5.9	1.4	1.4	38.9	73.6	37.3
G	Colt Tharpe	6-1/190	So.	Walk-	on tra	insfer sl	hoots the	3 well.	
G/F	Omar Thomas	6-5/205	Sr.	15.5	4.8	1.1	53.0	78.2	33.3
C	John Tofi*	6-10/245	Jr.	10.8	5.9	1.1	56.7	67.6	0.0
G/F	Jason Williams*	6-6/205	Jr.	11.6	6.1	3.5	44.7	70.4	32.0
LO	SSES								
Nai	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
Chr	ris Craig*	6-1/180	9.2	2.	4	2.1	41.3	83.9	42.4
Roy	/ Smallwood*	6-6/210	8.2	5.	1	1.8	56.7	83.3	45.5
	G F G F F F/C G G G/F C C G/F	G Miguel Ayala F Stanley Branch G Vernon Carr G Kelvin Davis F Thomas Gehrke G Josh Gutierrez F Brent Murphy F/C Nathan Nixon G Filiberto Rivera* G Giovanni St. Amant G Colt Tharpe G/F Omar Thomas	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 F Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 F Brent Murphy 6-8/240 F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 G Colt Tharpe 6-1/190 GF Omar Thomas 6-5/205 C John Tofi* 6-10/245 G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 **LOSSES** Name Ht./Wt. Chris Craig** 6-1/180	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 Fr. F Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 Sr. G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 So. F Brent Murphy 6-8/240 Jr. F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 Fr. G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 Sr. G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 Jr. G Coll Tharpe 6-1/190 So. G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. C John Tofi* 6-10/245 Jr. G/F Jason Williams* 9-6/205 Jr. C John Tofi* 6-6/205 Jr. C John Tofi* 6-6/205 Jr. C John Tofi* 6-10/245 Jr. G/F Jason Williams* 9-6/205 Jr.	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. Stron F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. Prep stron G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. Tougl G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 Fr. Avera F Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 Sr. 1.5 G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 So. 0.4 F Brent Murphy 6-8/240 Jr. 2.7 F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 Fr. Redst G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 Sr. 11.2 G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 Jr. 5.9 G Colt Tharpe 6-1/190 So. Walk-GF Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. 10.6 G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. 11.6 G/F USSES Name Ht./Wt. PPG RP Chris Craig* 6-1/180 9.2 2.	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. Strong 3-pc F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. Prep school G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. Tough lead G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 Fr. Averaged 2 F Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 Sr. 1.5 1.4 G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 So. 0.4 0.1 F Brent Murphy 6-8/240 Jr. 2.7 1.2 F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 Fr. Redshirted G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 Sr. 11.2 3.1 G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 Jr. 5.9 1.4 G Coll Tharpe 6-1/190 So. Walk-on tra G Formar Thomas 6-5/205 Sr. 15.5 4.8 C John Tofi* 6-10/245 Jr. 10.8 5.9 G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. 11.6 6.1 **LOSSES** Name Ht./Wt. PPG RPG Chris Craig** 6-1/180 9.2 2.4	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. Strong 3-point sho F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. Prep school star wi G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. Tough leader who G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 Fr. Averaged 29 ppg a F Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 Sr. 1.5 1.4 0.6 G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 So. 0.4 0.1 0.0 F Brent Murphy 6-8/240 Jr. 2.7 1.2 0.2 F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 Fr. Redshirted for 200 G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 Sr. 11.2 3.1 4.8 G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 Jr. 5.9 1.4 1.4 G Colt Tharpe 6-1/190 So. Walk-on transfer si G John Tofi* 6-10/245 Jr. 10.8 5.9 1.1 G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. 11.6 6.1 3.5 **LOSSES** Name** Ht./Wt. PPG RPG APG Chris Craig** 6-1/180 9.2 2.4 2.1	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. Strong 3-point shooter and F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. Prep school star will provide G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. Tough leader who can play G Kelvin Davis 6-4/195 Fr. Averaged 29 ppg as a senior Standard Standar	G Miguel Ayala 6-6/190 Jr. Strong 3-point shooter and rebound F Stanley Branch 6-8/210 Fr. Prep school star will provide help re G Vernon Carr 6-0/170 Fr. Tough leader who can play both gus 6-4/195 Fr. Averaged 29 ppg as a senior. Fr Thomas Gehrke 6-8/215 Sr. 1.5 1.4 0.6 22.7 67.7 G Josh Gutierrez 5-11/150 So. 0.4 0.1 0.0 33.3 50.0 Fr. Brent Murphy 6-8/240 Jr. 2.7 1.2 0.2 47.6 76.5 F/C Nathan Nixon 6-10/210 Fr. Redshirted for 2003-04. G Filiberto Rivera* 6-2/175 Sr. 11.2 3.1 4.8 44.3 77.9 G Giovanni St. Amant 6-3/190 Jr. 5.9 1.4 1.4 38.9 73.6 G Colt Tharpe 6-1/190 So. Walk-on transfer shooters the 3 well. G Format Thomas 6-5/205 Sr. 15.5 4.8 1.1 53.0 78.2 C John Tofi* 6-10/245 Jr. 10.8 5.9 1.1 56.7 67.6 G/F Jason Williams* 6-6/205 Jr. 11.6 6.1 3.5 44.7 70.4 CUSSES Name Ht./Wt. PPG RPG APG FG% F7% F7% Chris Craig* 6-1/180 9.2 2.4 2.1 41.3 83.9

2. Rice

SCHEDULE

N26-27 Las Vegas Classic

N21 Delaware St

N23 Jackson St.

N30 IPFW

WHAT WE LIKE: The inside-outside punch of Michael Harris and Jason McKrieth, a pair of 1,000-point scorers, is the league's best. The duo toured China this summer as part of an Athletes In Action team. Harris is built like an NFL tight end and has explosive leaping ability. If he were a few inches taller, he'd be an NBA lock. Instead, he has to settle for being the "Shaq of the WAC." McKrieth is one of the top guards in the conference who primarily will play shooting guard but will run the point at times. He can score and made opponents pay for fouls by shooting 84.0 percent on free throws.

WHAT SCARES US: Is there anyone besides the dynamic duo who can score? Shooting guard Brock Gillespie should go over 1,000 points this season, but he hasn't shown he can shoot with a hand in his face or create his own shot. His 32.7 percent shooting last season (29.9 from 3-point range) shows that. The loss of shot blocker Yamar Diene will add pressure to the Owls' defense and force Harris to guard better players, which could lead to foul trouble. This team's drive also is a concern. The Owls reached the NIT last season, the school's first post-season appearance in 11 years, and promptly tanked.

X-FACTORS: Coach Willis Wilson, who was interviewed for the vacant Ohio State job this summer, has to find a point guard who can get Harris and McKrieth the ball. It could be speedy sophomore Lorenzo Williams or Jason Okrzesik. Look for more production from forwards J.R. Harrison and Morris Almond. If the Owls get it, they could be hootin' in the NCAA Tournament.

OWLS DATA

J22 San Jose St.

J29 at Louisiana Tech

J27 at SMU

Coach: Willis Wilson (169-175, 12 years).

F5 at Rice

F12 Nevada

F10 Fresno St.

Assistant coaches: Todd Smith (15 years), Marty Gross (14), Marty Gillespie (3). 2003-04 record: 22-11. WAC: 12-6/T3rd. Lost to Wisconsin-Milwaukee in NIT opening round.

F19 Bracket Buster

F24 Louisiana Tech

F21 at Hawaii

M5 Boise St

FG%

54.6

42.9

63.5

80.6

0.0

46.7

Last regular-season title: 1970 (SWC). Last NCAA appearance: 1970.

Site: Houston. Website: www.riceowls.com

Home court: Autry Court (5,000).

ROSTER

Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
22	F	Morris Almond	6-6/215	So.	4.8	1.0	0.6	45.5	79.3	27.8
35	F	Jason Bridges	6-5/190	Jr.	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	
41	F	Patrick Britton	6-8/200	Fr.	Big ye	et wily	enough	to slash	to the l	hoop.
2	G	Walt Chancellor	6-1/175	Jr.	0.9	0.7	0.2	75.0	66.7	1
10	G	Arthur Culver	5-11/160	So.	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	-	0.0
21	G	Rodney Foster	6-1/185	Fr.	Had s	hin str	ess frac	tures thi	s summ	er.
1	G	Brock Gillespie*	6-0/170	Sr.	9.2	1.2	1.5	32.7	74.3	29.9
4	C	Matt Hagen	6-10/240	Fr.	Shoot	ts well	for a bi	g man.		
33	F/C	Michael Harris*	6-6/240	Sr.	17.5	8.9	1.2	60.3	69.9	48.5
14	F	J.R. Harrison	6-6/215	Jr.	5.5	4.1	0.8	46.3	71.7	32.3
31	C	Greg Killings	6-10/240	So.	1.5	1.0	0.1	41.2	55.6	_
34	G	Jason McKrieth*	6-4/210	Sr.	15.8	4.9	2.9	50.3	84.0	33.3
24	F	Jamaal Moore	6-5/195	Jr.	3.9	1.7	1.0	36.4	45.6	26.5
20	G	Jason Okrzesik	6-1/170	So.	0.6	0.7	0.8	45.5	50.0	50.0
13	F	Paulius Packevicius	6-9/230	Fr.	Will b	e read	y to fill	in aroun	d the po	st.
5	G	Lorenzo Williams	6-1/165	So.	2.6	0.7	1.0	56.5	46.2	50.0

Ht./Wt.

6-9/230

6-3/175

7.8

5.3

0.8

SCHEDULE

=	JOHEDOLL												
	N20 Mobile	D6 Grambling	D30	SMU	J15	Tulsa	J29	at San Jose St.	F16	at Nevada	F27	Hawaii	
11	N23 Middle Tennessee	D16 Lamar	J1	Louisiana Tech	J20	Fresno St.	F3	Boise St.	F19	Bracket Buster	M3	at Louisiana Tech	
- 13	N27 at Louisiana Lafayette	D19 at Connecticut	16	at UTEP	J22	Nevada	F5	UTEP	F21	at Fresno St.	M5	at SMU	
1	N30 Houston	D22 at Syracuse	18	at Boise St.	J27	at Hawaii	F12	at Tulsa	F25	San Jose St.			

Pos.

Yamar Diene*

Rashid Smith*

3. Nevada

WHAT WE LIKE: Forward Kevinn Pinkney blossomed in the postseason and should have a big year. Frontcourt partner Nick Fazekas is an inside-outside guy who starred as a freshman. He has player-ofthe-year talent and challenges defenses with his shooting range. Jermaine Washington also improved over the course of last season. Nevada did lose coach Trent Johnson to Stanford, but former assistant Mark Fox takes over and intends to run the same system he and Johnson had implemented during the past five years. The WAC Tournament is in Reno at the Lawlor Events Center, where the Wolf Pack was undefeated last year.

WHAT SCARES US: The three biggest reasons for the Wolf Pack's run to the Sweet 16 last year-Johnson, guard Kirk Snyder and floor leader Todd Okeson—are gone. Any coaching change can be scary, and the backcourt is inexperienced after losing Marcelus Kemp for the season because of a knee injury. JC transfer Mo Charlo is expected to fill the shoes of Snyder, who left for the NBA. Freshman Lyndale Burleson is expected to contribute at the point. His growth could determine if the Pack returns to the NCAA Tournament.

X-FACTORS: How will Fox make the transition to the top job? Johnson was an intimidating presence whose players responded to his ways, as did officials. The players have been vocal in support of Fox, so expect them to play hard for him. Nevada also has a pair of 7-footers in Chad Bell (transfer from New Mexico) and David Ellis (freshman). If they are productive, the Pack will be tough to beat.

SCHEDULE

N20-21 Jim Thorpe Classic	D7 at Toledo	D30	San Jose St.	J13	UTEP
N26 at Georgia	D11 Pacific	J1.	Hawaii	J15	Boise St.
N29 at Kansas	D17-18 Holiday Classic	16	at Louisiana Tech	J20	at Tulsa
D4 UNLV	D22 at UC Davis	18	at SMU	J22	at Rice

WOLF PACK DATA

Coach: Mark Fox (1st year).

Assistant coaches: David Carter (5 years); Dedrique Taylor (1st); Josh Newman (1).

2003-04 record: 25-9. 13-5 WAC/T1st. Lost to Georgia Tech in St. Louis Region semifinal

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Reno, Nev. Website: www.nevadawolfpack.com Home court: Lawlor Events Center (11,200).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	projected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
33	C	Chad Bell	7-0/270	Jr.	New	Mexico	transf	er is elig	ible this	season.
1	G	Lyndale Burleson	6-3/185	Fr.	Is ver	y quic	k and c	an play e	ither gu	ard spot.
2	G	Mo Charlo	6-7/210	Jr.	JC tr	ansfei	shot 3	39% on 3	3s last s	eason.
25	C	David Ellis	7-0/200	Fr.	H.S. t	eam w	as state	e runner	-up last t	two years
22	F/C	Nick Fazekas*	6-11/225	So.	12.6	7.6	0.5	52.8	77.1	35.8
3	G	Kevyn Green	6-4/195	Fr.	Has s	hootin	g talen	t; brother	of Terrai	nce Green
5	G	Marcelus Kemp	6-5/210	So.	Wills	it out	season	with a k	nee injur	y.
35	G	Curry Lynch	6-1/175	Fr.	Walk-	on ad	ds dept	h at his	position.	
21	F	Kevinn Pinkney*	6-9/245	Sr.	9.4	5.7	0.9	51.3	69.8	25.0
11	G	Ramon Sessions	6-3/190	Fr.	South	Caroli	ina Clas	s 3A play	er of the	year.
4	G	Kyle Shiloh	6-3/190	So.	1.8	1.2	0.9	45.0	33.3	33.3
10	G	Seth Taylor	6-3/190	So.	1.0	0.4	0.0	31.3	20.0	25.0
30	F	Jermaine Washingto	on 6-5/205	Sr.	4.1	3.8	0.7	52.7	61.5	16.7
KE	Y LC	SSES								
os.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
ā	Ga	rry Hill-Thomas*	6-4/200	9.8	3	.6	2.3	48.2	70.1	0.0
3	Too	ld Okeson*	6-0/165	11.2	2	.8	3.9	39.7	87.1	35.8
-	Car	on David	6.0/245	24	2	0	0.0	20.0	741	0.0

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Garry Hill-Thomas*	6-4/200	9.8	3.6	2.3	48.2	70.1	0.0
G	Todd Okeson*	6-0/165	11.2	2.8	3.9	39.7	87.1	35.8
C	Sean Paul	6-9/245	3.4	3.8	0.9	38.8	74.1	0.0
G	Kirk Snyder*	6-6/225	18.8	5.7	3.5	43.1	73.1	34.8

J29 Fresno St. F12 at UTEP F26 at Fresno St. F3 SMU F17 Rice M 3 at Hawaii F19 Bracket Buster Louisiana Tech M5 at San Jose St. F10 at Boise St. F21 Tulsa

Boise State

WHAT WE LIKE: Jason Ellis is a guy who is 6-7 on his tiptoes, yet he still manages to rebound like a pro and defend bigger players with great effectiveness. Now that the Broncos have added frontcourt size, the senior could have a breakout year. Swingman Jermaine Blackburn was the team's leading scorer until he separated his shoulder last season. He's back at full strength and is a matchup problem for most WAC teams. Sophomore Eric Lane is the conference's best young point guard, and Coby Karl is a long-range bomber who also can take it to the hole. Senior Franco Harris can hit the 3.

WHAT SCARES US: Losing five seniors hurts, especially when four of them were the primary reasons Boise State reached the postseason for the first time in a decade. Bryan Defares, Aaron Havnes, Booker Nabors and Joe Skiffer gave the Broncos scoring, leadership and defense—and did it consistently. With seven new faces on this year's roster, it might take third-year coach Greg Graham time to figure out which combinations work best and who deserves the most playing time. After Lane, there's no true point guard with experience, meaning he's second only to Ellis in importance to the team.

X-FACTOR: The Broncos were forced to scramble for a backup point guard this summer when signee Antonio Fitzgerald failed to qualify, but they wound up with a versatile, proven winner. JC transfer McNeal Thompson joins BSU and can play either guard spot. That will give the team more options, including moving the sweet-shooting Lane to shooting guard at times.

SCHEDIII E

N19-21 Boise Invitational	D8 at BYU	D28 Idaho St.	J13 at Fresno St.	J27 at Louisiana Tech	F10 Nevada	F21 at San Jose St.
N24 Portland St.	D14 Eastern Washington	J2 UTEP	J15 at Nevada	J29 at SMU	F12 Fresno St.	F24 SMU
127 at Utah Valley St.	D18 Oregon St.	J6 Tulsa	J20 San Jose St.	F3 at Rice	F17 at Hawaii	F26 Louisiana Tech
D4 at Idaho	D21 Elon	J8 Rice	J22 Hawaii	F5 at Tulsa	F19 Bracket Buster	M5 at UTEP

BRONCOS DATA

Coach: Greg Graham (36-26, 2 years).

Assistant coaches: Andy McClouskey (2 years), Tim Cleary (2), Julious

2003-04 record: 23-10. WAC: 12-6/T3rd. Lost to Marquette in NIT second round.

Last regular-season title: 1999 (Big West).

Last NCAA appearance: 1994.

Site: Boise, Idaho, Website: www.broncosports.com

Home court: Taco Bell Arena (12,380).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
25	F	Tezarray Banks	6-9/230	Jr.	JC red	ruit ad	ds size	to the fr	ontcourt	
15	G	Matt Bauscher	6-3/192	So.	JC wa	lk-on h	nopes to	help in	the bac	kcourt.
21	G/F	Jermaine Blackburn*	6-6/209	Sr.	13.7	3.3	1.4	49.3	68.8	30.5
45	F	Jason Ellis*	6-7/216	Sr.	8.7	9.0	1.2	46.1	68.1	-
44	F	Kenney Gainous	6-9/207	Sr.	Retur	ning af	ter a se	ason aw	ay from	the tean
54	F	Andrew Green	6-6/255	Fr.	Had '	18.6 pp	g, 16.3	rpg as a	prep ser	nior.
55	C	Colin Hallberg	6-10/250	Fr.	A big	man w	ho nee	ds time	to devel	op.
35	G	Franco Harris	5-11/170	Sr.	4.8	0.8	0.5	38.3	66.7	37.4
22	F	Brandon Johnson	6-8/190	Fr.	A hig	h schoo	ol catch	from Va	ncouver	Wash.
5	G	Coby Karl	6-5/194	So.	9.4	3.2	1.1	40.4	77.1	34.3
3	G	Eric Lane	6-1/173	So.	4.8	0.6	0.6	41.2	63.2	41.1
12	F	Kareem Lloyd	6-7/195	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer is	an ath	letic reb	ounding	force.
4	F	Seth Robinson	6-6/195	So.	Athle	tic, can	play w	ith his b	ack to th	e baske
11	G	McNeal Thompson	5-9/160	Jr.	An at	hletic	uarter	back wh	o also ca	n shoot

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	KPG	APG	FG%	F1%	3%	
G/F	Bryan Defares*	6-4/216	11.0	4.6	3.7	43.6	74.3	30.4	
F	Aaron Haynes*	6-7/180	14.8	6.1	1.7	50.0	78.6	19.7	
G/F	Booker Nabors	6-5/181	6.3	1.3	1.1	41.3	86.5	44.0	
G	Joe Skiffer*	6-3/198	2.3	2.2	3.0	28.1	73.8	_	

Нашаіі

WHAT WE LIKE: The Rainbow Warriors added impact players in the offseason-led by Matt Gipson, a 6-9 junior college transfer who started his career at Oklahoma. He's not to be confused with Matt Gibson, another JC transfer who should make big contributions on the perimeter. Factor in 6-11 Chris Botez, yet another JC transfer, and it's easy to see that coach Riley Wallace thinks bigger is better. The Rainbow Warriors also have Julian Sensley, who quietly averaged 12.3 points and 7.3 rebounds last year. If he gets freedom in the offense, he can have a monster year. Jeff Blackett is a heady 6-8 forward with some shooting range and enough bulk to mix it up down low.

WHAT SCARES US: Gibson and Bobby Nash are unproven at this level, so the team lacks a guard who is a sure scorer. Shooting guard is a vital part of Wallace's fundamental system that drives opponents crazy. The point guard situation could magnify the problem. Logan Lee at one point looked like the leading candidate, and he no longer is with the team. Hawaii added late JC signees Kris Groce and Deonte Tatum to offset that departure. The loss of big men Haim Shimonovich and Phil Martin puts a big dent in the post defense.

X-FACTORS: It seems the important question for the Rainbow Warriors every year is whether the team can consistently win on the mainland. That again will determine what kind of season Hawaii has. The more pressing question, though, is the ability of Tatum or Groce to excel in the point guard position. If either has a solid year, Hawaii will be returning to the NIT or will reach the NCAA Tournament.

RAINBOW WARRIORS DATA

Coach: Riley Wallace (283-228, 17 years; 298-255 overall, 19 years; NCAA Tournament, 0-3)

Assistant coaches: Bob Burke (2 years), Bob Nash (23), Jackson Wheeler (13). 2003-04 record: 21-12. WAC: 11-7/5th.

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Honolulu. Website: www.uhathletics.hawaii.edu

Home court: Stan Sheriff Center (10,300).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
34	F	Jeff Blackett	6-8/210	Sr.	7.9	3.3	0.9	52.2	80.2	5.6
	C	Chris Botez	6-11/225	Jr.	Avera	ged 8	.4 rpg,	3.3 block	s at JC la	st year.
	G	Matt Gibson	6-4/170	So.	JC tra	ansfer	had fiv	e 30-poir	nt games	in '03-04
	F	Matt Gipson	6-9/235	Jr.	JC tra	ansfe	rorigina	ally signe	ed with (Oklahoma
	G	Kris Groce	5-9/140	So.	Avera	ged 7	.2 assis	ts last ye	ar for JC	league.
33	G	Bobby Nash	6-6/190	So.	1.8	0.9	0.3	48.6	50.0	41.2
22	G/F	Vaidotas Peciukas	6-7/205	Sr.	4.1	1.0	0.9	58.5	69.0	45.5
	G/F	Ryan Schmidt	6-6/210	Jr.	Was a	an all-	star in l	nis JC lea	gue.	
41	F	Julian Sensley*	6-9/235	Jr.	12.3	7.3	3.4	48.2	72.3	30.5
3	G	Jake Sottos	6-4/160	Sr.	2.2	0.7	0.7	28.2	75.0	23.3
	G	Deonte Tatum	6-2/175	Jr.	Highl	ly reg	arded .	C point	guard.	
12	C	Milos Zivanovic	6-11/235	Jr.	0.8	1.4	0.3	30.8	45.5	-
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RF	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Jas	on Carter	5-10/155	4.8	1	.2	2.2	41.4	60.0	34.6
G	Mi	chael Kuebler*	6-5/185	18.1	3	.2	2.3	45.2	73.0	40.1
										ACT OF THE REAL PROPERTY.

Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
Jason Carter	5-10/155	4.8	1.2	2.2	41.4	60.0	34.6	
Michael Kuebler*	6-5/185	18.1	3.2	2.3	45.2	73.0	40.1	
Logan Lee*	6-2/170	4.2	1.7	3.6	40.5	70.3	32.8	
Phil Martin*	6-8/235	9.5	4.5	0.9	46.3	79.0	33.3	
Haim Shimonovich*	6-10/265	7.0	6.7	1.8	50.0	60.0	-	
	Jason Carter Michael Kuebler* Logan Lee* Phil Martin*	Jason Carter 5-10/155 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 Phil Martin* 6-8/235	Jason Carter 5-10/155 4.8 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5	Jason Carter S-10/155 4.8 1.2 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 3.2 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 1.7 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5 4.5	Jason Carter 5-10/155 4.8 1.2 2.2 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 3.2 2.3 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 1.7 3.6 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5 4.5 0.9	Jason Carter 5-10/155 4.8 1.2 2.2 41.4 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 3.2 2.3 45.2 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 1.7 3.6 40.5 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5 4.5 0.9 46.3	Jason Carter 5-10/155 4.8 1.2 2.2 41.4 60.0 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 3.2 2.3 45.2 73.0 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 1.7 3.6 40.5 70.3 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5 4.5 0.9 46.3 79.0	Jason Carter 5-10/155 4.8 1.2 2.2 41.4 60.0 34.6 Michael Kuebler* 6-5/185 18.1 3.2 2.3 45.2 73.0 40.1 Logan Lee* 6-2/170 4.2 1.7 3.6 40.5 70.3 32.8 Phil Martin* 6-8/235 9.5 4.5 0.9 46.3 79.0 33.3

SCHEDULE

N23 Mississippi Valle	y St. D11 St. Mary's	J8 San Jose St.	J22 at Boise St.	F10 at Louisiana Tech	F21 UTEP	M5 Fresno St.
N26 Coastal Carolina	D20-23 Rainbow Classic	J13 SMU	J27 Rice	F12 at SMU	F24 at Tulsa	
N29 Southern Illinoi	D30 at Fresno St.	J15 Louisiana Tech	J29 Tulsa	F17 Boise St.	F26 at Rice	
D4 at St. Louis	J1 at Nevada	J20 at UTEP	F5 at San Jose St.	F19 Bracket Buster	M3 Nevada	

Louisiana Tech

WHAT WE LIKE: The Bulldogs lost nobody of any significance from a team that finished .500 last season, which was a good year considering the inexperience on that roster. Paul Millsap led the nation in rebounding as a freshman last year, and you can expect his offensive numbers to balloon. He will benefit from a strong, experienced group of guards. Point Donell Allick was inconsistent last season, but with a year of D-I play under his belt, he should improve. The key to the outside game is shooting guard Corey Dean, who had a breakout season as a junior when he averaged 12.7 points, nearly tripling his average. The recruiting class looks promising, too.

WHAT SCARES US: The Bulldogs have a reputation for inconsistency. How else can you explain winning on the road at Hawaii, Boise State and Rice last season and then being the only team to lose to San Jose State? Tech's schedule will be tougher because of a new rule that doesn't allow WAC schools to play non-Division I teams. That means the Bulldogs will replace Montevallo and Tougaloo with Auburn and Memphis. After Millsap, the front line is a concern. Junior college transfer Michael Wilds could be the answer.

X-FACTOR: Coach Keith Richard really needs one of the guards he signed to step up and give Tech another outside shooter—something that will provide Millsap more room to operate. Millsap has good offensive skills, but he won't get to use them if he's constantly doubleteamed, which will happen until the Bulldogs show they have a quality perimeter game.

SCHEDI II F

BULLDOGS DATA

Coach: Keith Richard (106-69, 6 years).

Assistant coaches: Johnny Simmons (6 years), Kevin Caballero (5), Ryan Cross (1).

2003-04 record: 15-15. WAC: 8-10/7th. Last regular-season title: 1999 (Sun Belt).

Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: Ruston, La. Website: www.latechsports.com Home court: Thomas Assembly Center (8,000).

POSTED

		starter; bold names: p	And the Party of t			-	-000	2500m	2235	1.000
Vo.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
1	G	Donell Allick*	6-3/190	Sr.	11.2	3.3	3.6	36.3	65.0	28.7
20	G	Jason Bray	6-5/205	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	made 1	08 3-poi	nters las	t season.
23	G	Corey Dean*	6-4/200	Sr.	12.7	4.1	2.5	42.3	65.4	32.0
15	G	Marcus Elliott	6-3/185	Jr.	Could	provi	de need	led perim	neter sho	oting.
3	G	Clarke Hale	6-2/180	Fr.	Had 2	27.3 p	pg and	5.3 apg	as a pr	ep senior
11	G	Daevon Haskins	6-4/190	Jr.	JC po	oint g	uard w	ho's an	asset or	defense
14	G	Nathan Heflin	6-0/170	So.	Ready	y to ba	attle for	playing	time.	
13	F	Jeremy Johnston	6-8/260	Jr.	2.1	2.0	0.1	43.5	68.8	-
10	G	J.J. Marshall	5-10/160	Fr.	Could	help	at the n	nost que	stionable	position
24	F	Paul Millsap*	6-8/235	So.	15.6	12.5	0.7	58.7	64.1	1.00
4	F/C	Wayne Powell*	6-9/255	Sr.	9.2	5.5	0.5	46.7	79.2	55.6
33	G/F	Barry Thompson	6-6/215	Sr.	5.7	3.3	0.6	38.6	63.0	37.3
0	F	Michael Wilds	6-8/230	Jr.	Effect	ive 3-	point sh	ooter wh	o fights f	for boards
2	G	Eric Woods	6-4/195	Jr.	2.8	1.5	1.1	28.6	87.5	31.4
(E)	Y LO	SSES								
os.	Nai	7.7.7.	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%

6-5/205 8.4

JOI ILDOLL						
N19-21 LSU Tournament	D7 at Jackson State	D30 at Tulsa	J13 at San Jose St.	J29 UTEP	F13 San Jose St.	F26 at Boise St.
N27 at Auburn	D12 at Texas-San Antonio	J1 at Rice	J15 at Hawaii	F3 at Fresno St.	F16 SMU	M3 Rice
N29 at UAB	D18 McNeese St.	J6 Nevada	J22 SMU	F5 at Nevada	F19 Bracket Buster	M5 Tulsa
D4 Texas-San Antonio	D20 at Memphis	J8 Fresno St.	J27 Boise St.	F10 Hawaii	F24 at UTEP	

JueMichael Young*

HAT WE LIKE: This is a talented group that has virtually everyone returning from a team that drastically underachieved last season, which cost coach Mike Dement his job. Point guard Bryan Hopkins is an exciting player who can score. His biggest problem has been trying to do too much, which leads to turnovers. New coach Jimmy Tubbs says Hopkins needs to have an assist-to-turnover ratio of 3-to-1 or better. Big men Patrick Simpson and Eric Castro have talent but have yet to perform consistently. Justin Isham and Hopkins give the Mustangs outside shooting. The coaching change can't hurt, as this stagnant program hasn't been to the NCAA Tournament since 1993 and has had only one NIT bid (2000) since then.

WHAT SCARES US: The Mustangs showed they had Top 25 potential last season by winning at Purdue and beating Texas Tech. Of course, the same group lost at home to Boise State by 39 points. SMU also has been soft, not putting up much of a fight once an opponent gets out in front. Tubbs realizes this, saying the most important improvement his team can make is to get tougher. Tubbs also has no head coaching experience, though he was an assistant at Oklahoma for two seasons.

X-FACTOR: Tubbs' biggest job will be to get this team to play to its potential. If he's as good a motivator as he is a recruiter, it could be a monster year. Of course, he must show he has what it takes to manage a game and handle a team. The talent should make his job easier, but this still is a team that could finish first or ninth in the WAC.

SCHEDULE

N19 UT Tyler	D4 Texas St.	D30 at Rice	J13 at Hawaii	J29 Boise St.	F12 Hawaii	F27 at UTEP
N27 at Montana St.	D12 at TCU	J1 at Tulsa	J15 at San Jose St.	F3 at Nevada	F16 Louisiana Tech	M3 Tulsa
N29 Oklahoma St.	D16 Baylor	J6 Fresno St.	J22 at Louisiana Tech	F5 at Fresno St.	F19 Bracket Buster	M5 Rice
D1 at Texas Tech	D20 Arkansas-Pine Bluff	J8 Nevada	J27 UTEP	F10 San Jose St.	F25 at Boise St.	

8. Tulsa

WHAT WE LIKE: Last year was a painful and a rare rebuilding season in Tulsa. The Golden Hurricane will be better because of itmany inexperienced players took their lumps and will be stronger this season. Senior Jarius Glenn is the primary holdover from the glory days, along with forward Anthony Price and guard Seneca Collins. But none of the three will score in bunches, which means highly touted junior college transfers Oswaldo Gonzalez and Yusuf Baker will be asked to shoot. This team has pretty good size and could benefit from the loss of Jason Parker, whom the Hurricane relied on way too much last season. A more balanced attack is the key to the season.

WHAT SCARES US: This program will be under a great deal of pressure. Fans already are grumbling about coach John Phillips. If Tulsa doesn't fare well in its tough nonconference schedule, those voices will get louder and distract a team that probably isn't suited to handle outside pressure. It will get enough from the rest of the conference, which is exacting a little revenge after being dominated by Tulsa in recent years. The big concerns are finding the right point guard and a solid perimeter shooter. These two areas must be addressed to allow the Golden Hurricane to use its size inside.

X-FACTOR: Tulsa can play big and has plenty of frontcourt depth. In addition to Price, Gonzalez and Baker, junior college forward Vernell Davis is being counted on for production. Don't forget Guilherme Teichmann, Charles Ramsdell and Brian Cardwell. That gives Tulsa seven players 6-8 or taller. No WAC team can match that.

MUSTANGS DATA

Coach: Jimmy Tubbs (1st year).

Assistant coaches: Robert Lineburg (7 years), Anthony Anderson (1st),

Dean Christian (1st).

2003-04 record: 12-18. WAC: 5-13/T8th. Last regular-season title: 1993 (SWC). Last NCAA appearance: 1993

Site: Dallas. Website: www.smumustangs.com Home court: Moody Coliseum (8,998).

ROSTER

*200	3-04 9	starter; bold names: pro	jected 2004	-05 st	tarter						
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
21	F/C	Eric Castro*	6-8/250	Sr.	9.9	5.6	1.8	50.9	68.2	13.0	
20	G	Michael Dement	6-0/175	Sr.	Walk-	on is t	he son	of ex-coa	ch Mike	Dement.	
11	G	Bryan Hopkins*	6-0/195	Jr.	17.7	3.7	3.8	44.0	79.6	40.4	
22	G	Ryan Hopkins	6-2/170	Jr.	0.4	0.0	0.0	50.0	-	50.0	
3	G	Justin Isham*	6-5/198	Sr.	7.8	3.4	1.8	40.1	66.7	28.4	
4	G	Jon Killen	6-4/195	Fr.	A true	point	guard,	distribut	es the b	all well.	
5	G	Brian Miller	6-5/205	Jr.	3.4	0.8	0.7	34.7	33.3	30.9	
10	F	Ike Ofoegbu	6-9/215	So.	JC tra	nsfer h	as three	e years o	f eligibi	lity.	
2	F	Devon Pearson	6-6/225	So.	3.1	2.7	0.3	39.3	60.0	28.6	
25	F/C	Donatas Rackauskas	6-11/240	Jr.	2.0	1.5	0.1	49.1	53.3	0.0	
40	F/C	Christopher Reay	6-8/245	So.	0.6	0.5	0.0	16.7	50.0	-	
32	F	Paulius Ritter	6-7/225	Fr.	Lithu	anian v	went to	U.S. high	school	last year.	
15	G	Derrick Roberts	6-4/190	Fr.	A scorer capable of carrying his team.						
1	F	Patrick Simpson*	6-9/220	Sr.	11.3	6.0	0.8	46.9	66.4	23.4	
(E)	Y LO	SSES									

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G/F	Kris Lowe*	6-6/212	7.3	4.0	2.1	42.6	68.3	38.5	

GOLDEN HURRICANE DATA

Coach: John Phillips (59-37, 3 years; NCAA Tournament 2-2).

Assistant coaches: Steve Cooper (3 years), Kwanza Johnson (3), Pooh Williamson (3).

2003-04 record: 9-20. WAC: 5-13/T8th. Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Tulsa, Okla, Website: www.tulsahurricane.com Home court: Donald W. Reynolds Center (8,355).

ROSTER

		starter; bold names: p	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN						-	-	
0.	Pos.	. Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
32	F	Yusuf Baker	6-8/220	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	from Ida	aho is a	solid reb	ounder	
12	G	Kyle Blankenship	6-0/185	Jr.	2.3	1.0	1.0	45.0	77.8	43.8	
44	(Brian Cardwell	6-10/225	So.	3.3	2.6	0.8	60.4	50.0	37.5	
24	G	Seneca Collins*	6-4/240	Jr.	7.5	2.3	0.9	40.8	80.6	35.5	
00	F	Vernell Davis	6-8/220	Jr.	Local	produ	ct great	at block	king shot	5.	
4	F	Jarius Glenn*	6-6/220	Sr.	12.6	6.1	2.0	51.4	66.3	7.7	
33	(Oswaldo Gonzalez	6-9/220	Sr.	Redsh	nirted	in 2003	-04 afte	r NCAA is	ssues.	
1	G	Deion James	6-1/180	Fr.	Excellent leader at point guard.						
3	G	Kenneth Kelley	6-1/195	So.	5.8	2.0	1.4	34.5	66.7	30.8	
5	G	Brett McDade	6-0/165	Fr.	Redsh	nirted	in 2003	-04.			
50	F	Anthony Price*	6-8/225	Jr.	10.5	4.8	0.9	53.9	45.9	0.0	
41	F	Charles Ramsdell	6-10/205	So.	3.7	2.4	0.6	39.6	58.3	29.7	
34	F	G. Teichmann*	6-9/205	Sr.	6.1	6.0	1.0	41.3	64.8	28.3	
2	G	Chris Wallace	6-2/185	Jr.	1.5	1.0	0.9	35.1	100.0	31.3	
KE	Y LC	SSES									
Pos.	Na	me	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%	
G	Jas	on Parker*	6-2/180	16.9	3.	.5	2.9	38.9	77.1	37.5	

SCHEDULE

N16-26 Preseason NIT	D12 Prairie View A&M	D28 Oklahoma	J6 at Boise St.	J20 Nevada	F3 UTEP	F19 Bracket Buster	M3 at SMU
N21 Northwestern St.	D18 Wichita St.	at Oklahoma City	J8 at UTEP	J22 Fresno St.	F5 Boise St.	F21 at Nevada	M5 at Louisiana Tech
N30 at Arkansas	D22 Lamar	D31 Louisiana Tech	J10 at New Mexico St.	J27 at San Jose St.	F12 Rice	F25 Hawaii	
D5 Oral Roberts		J2 SMU	J15 at Rice	J29 at Hawaii	F16 at Fresno St.	F27 San Jose St.	

Fresno State

WHAT WE LIKE: We're not sure what to like because so much is unknown. The Bulldogs have only three players on their roster who played last year. The team needs either Mustafa Al-Sayyad or big Jack Marlow to establish an inside presence. Al-Sayyad is an excellent defensive player who shows flashes of offensive brilliance. Marlow's biggest challenge will be getting in shape to play extended minutes. Forward Dreike Bouldin also must have a big season.

WHAT SCARES US: Who is going to run the show and score the points? What happens if this team gets in foul trouble? Fresno State is paying for its past transgressions with the NCAA. Coach Ray Lopes should have the easiest program to sell in the conference, but the school's history of off-court issues hasn't made things easy. It might take a couple of trouble-free seasons to get the Bulldogs back on the postseason track. As it is, they'll be playing catch-up in the WAC. The biggest basketball problem will be replacing Shantay Legans and Marcus West. Legans played 38.2 minutes a game last season at the point and singlehandedly kept his team in games. West, one of the conference's most dangerous outside shooters, no longer is with the team because of academic issues.

X-FACTORS: Lopes preaches defense and hitting the boards hard, and if his team buys into his concepts, they should be able to hang with opponents. Freshman Dwight O'Neil has plenty of talent, but asking him to take over the point guard position—with fellow freshman Donovan Morris in the backcourt—is asking a lot.

SCHEDULE

N12 CS Monterey	D8 at USC	D23 at San Francisco	J8 at Louisiana Tech	J22 at Tulsa	F10 at UTEP	F21 Rice
N19 MdEastern Shore	D11 Sacramento St.	D30 Hawaii	J13 Boise St.	J29 at Nevada	F12 at Boise St.	F26 Nevada
N27 at East Tennessee St.	D18 Oregon	J1 San Jose St.	J15 UTEP	F3 Louisiana Tech	F16 Tulsa	M3 at San Jose St.
D3-4 McCaffrey Classic	D21 Pacific	J6 at SMU	J20 at Rice	F5 SMU	F19 Bracket Buster	M5 at Hawaii

10. San Jose State

WHAT WE LIKE: Forward Marquin Chandler finally started playing at a high level toward the end of last season, which was one of the few bright spots for the Spartans. He scored more than 20 points three times in the final seven games. More good news: The Spartans will have a different backcourt this season. Last year's guards were maybe the least productive of any team in a major conference, which was a big reason why San Jose State went 1-17 in WAC play. The schedule is challenging, but there isn't a non-conference game the Spartans can't win. Gaining confidence entering WAC play could be a spark.

WHAT SCARES US: It's feasible that San Jose State can be the mostimproved team in the WAC and still not escape the basement. The No. 1 concern will be finding a combination of players who can be productive in the backcourt. The leading candidates are Donta Watson and Eric Bloom, a pair of junior college transfers. The Spartans also will miss workhorse Eric Walton in the middle; the sizechallenged squad must find someone to be a threat inside. As for that non-conference schedule, the Spartans start the season with NCAA Tournament surprise Pacific. An opening loss could turn eight winnable games into another downward spiral.

X-FACTOR: Coach Phil Johnson is banking on junior college talent to get the program its first winning season since 1993-94. The key will be how fast the six JC transfers can adapt to the Division I game. With that many new faces, team chemistry also will be something Johnson must develop to give his team a chance.

BULLDOGS DATA

Coach: Ray Lopes (34-23, 2 years).

Assistant coaches: Arturo Ormond (2 years), Guy Beach (1), Vonn Webb (1).

2003-04 record: 14-15. WAC: 10-8/6th. Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Fresno, Calif. Website: www.gobulldogs.com Home court: Save Mart Center (16,116).

ROSTER

*200	3-04	starter; bold names: pro	ojected 2004	1-05 s	tarter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
55	C	Mustafa Al-Sayyad*	6-9/230	Sr.	8.4	7.3	0.8	60.4	61.2	_
00	G	Kevin Bell	5-9/150	Fr.	Could	be eli	gible fo	rsecond	semeste	er.
15	F	Chris Berry	6-6/190	Fr.	Inten	se play	er who	scores in	transiti	ion well.
2	F/G	Dreike Bouldin*	6-7/215	Sr.	4.5	4.7	1.8	31.8	72.7	26.9
32	G	Chris Brazelton	6-5/200	Jr.	Walk	on sat	out las	t season		
34	G	JaVance Coleman	6-3/215	So.	Spen	t last se	eason a	t College	of the S	equoias.
21	F	Hector Hernandez	6-9/225	Fr.	Skill	ed play	er with	good o	utside t	touch.
12	C	Jack Marlow	6-9/330	Sr.	2.1	2.4	0.5	56.5	33.3	
4	G	Donovan Morris	6-4/205	Fr.	Playe	ed with	White	at Wind	chendon	Prep.
5	G	Dwight O'Neil	6-5/180	Fr.	Will	be ask	ed to ta	ake the	next ste	ep fast.
00	G	Carl Ross	6-3/190	Fr.	High	school	teamm	ate of 0'	Neil.	
31	G	Jose Sanchez	6-3/195	Fr.	One o	of team	's five C	alifornia	recruits	
22	G	Dominique White	5-11/185	Fr.	With	Morris	led pre	p team	to cham	pionship.
3	G	M'Jumbe Williams	6-0/160	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer h	elps fill	a very t	hin posit	tion.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Chris Adams*	6-10/225	4.1	3.7	1.1	46.3	75.0	20.0
F	Francis Koffi	6-7/220	4.4	2.6	0.5	45.2	66.7	0.0
G	Shantay Legans*	5-10/165	15.0	2.8	5.6	39.7	84.5	36.2
G	Marcus West*	6-5/200	10.3	3.5	1.5	41.1	73.5	43.1

SPARTANS DATA

Coach: Phil Johnson (27-50, 3 years).

Assistant coaches: Kevin Brown (1st year), Dennis Cutts (2), Ben Sanders

2003-04 record: 6-23. WAC: 1-17/10th. Last regular-season title: 1949. Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: San Jose, Calif. Website: www.sjsuspartans.com

Home court: The Event Center (5,000).

ROSTER

No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	396
23	G	Eric Bloom	6-4/200	Jr.	Name	ed MVI	at a S	an Dieg	o JC tou	irnament
40	F	D.J. Brown	6-6/230	Sr.	7.5	4.0	1.1	38.8	57.9	0.0
35	F	Marquin Chandler*	6-7/220	Sr.	9.8	4.1	0.6	53.5	70.6	51.1
15	G/F	Alex Elam	6-4/200	Jr.	JC red	ruit ha	d 12.5	ppg, 3.5	rpg last	season.
42	F/C	Mark Fresby	6-9/220	Jr.	Playe	d for to	vo juni	or colleg	es.	
22	G	Kareem Guilbeaux*	6-3/182	Sr.	3.9	2.6	2.0	38.3	48.5	0.0
12	F	Lance Holloway	6-7/195	So.	0.7	0.9	0.1	50.0	75.0	_
32	G/F	Michael McFadden	6-5/205	Sr.	7.0	2.1	1.7	37.3	75.9	34.6
4	G	Ryan Miller	5-10/175	Jr.	Playe	d in on	e game	before i	injury la	st year.
52	C	Matt Misko	6-11/225	Jr.	JC tr	ansfer	has si	ze as w	ell as ta	lent.
30	G/F	Kenny Smith	6-4/215	Jr.	JC rec	ruit sta	arted co	llege car	reer at O	klahoma
5	G	Donta Watson	5-10/170	Jr.	Won	all-Ne	braska	honors	with JO	team.

KEY LOSSES

Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
F	Brett Lilly*	6-6/205	9.4	1.8	0.9	39.0	73.1	40.9
G	Bim Okunrinboye*	6-0/189	4.6	3.2	2.8	35.4	82.5	33.9
C	Eric Walton*	6-8/230	11.8	6.5	0.6	51.4	79.3	0.0

SCHEDULE

N20 Pacific	D4 Cal Poly	D30 at Nevada	J15 SMU	J29 Rice	F16 UTEP	F26 at Tulsa
N24 Montana State	D7 San Diego	J1 at Fresno State	J20 at Boise State	F5 Hawaii	F19 Bracket Buster	M3 Fresno State
N27 at San Diego	D17 UC Irvine	J8 at Hawaii	J22 at UTEP	F10 at SMU	F21 Boise State	M5 Nevada
D1 at Santa Clara	D21 at Montana State	J13 Louisiana Tech	J27 Tulsa	F12 Louisiana Tech	F24 at Rice	

Missouri Valleu

By Steve Pivovar, Omaha World-Herald

PREDICTIONS

1. Southern Illinois*

2. Wichita State

3. Northern Iowa

4. SW Missouri State 5. Creighton 6. Evansville

7. Drake 8. Bradley 9. Indiana State

10. Illinois State *NCAA tourney pick

Coach: Chris Lowery (1st year).

fight this summer.

1. Southern Illinois

Outlook: New coach Chris Lowery won't have

enjoyed in his only season leading the Salukis. SIU

a perfect regular season and captured a third con-

was overlooked early but came within one win of

secutive league crown. It also made a third con-

secutive trip to the NCAA Tournament. Painter left

to be Gene Keady's eventual successor at Purdue.

coach, promises few changes for a team that is

being billed as potentially better than last season's

25-win crew, Stetson Hairston and reigning player

of the year Darren Brooks are the lone returning

starters, but LaMar Owen, Jamaal Tatum, Tony

and shouldn't have trouble stepping into more

Young and Josh Warren played a lot last season

demanding roles. An off-court concern is the sta-

tus of Hairston, who was suspsended indefinitely

after felony and misdemeanor charges related to a

Lowery, a former Saluki guard and assistant

the anonymity that predecessor Matt Painter

Projected starters: G Darren Brooks, 6-3/Sr. (16.5 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 47.5 FG%); G Stetson Hairston, 6-3/Sr. (4.2 rpg, 43.8 FG%, 79.0 FT%); G Jamaal Tatum, 6-1/So. (42.0 FG%, 45.6 3P%); F LaMar Owen, 6-5/Sr. (4.3 rpg, 55.7 FG%); C Josh Warren, 6-8/Sr. (42.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2001. Site: Carbondale, III.

Home court: SIU Arena (10,000). Website: www.siusalukis.com

2. Wichita State

Outlook: Coach Mark Turgeon is hopeful his team learned from last season, when the Shockers were the consensus preseason choice to win the Valley title but finished second, five games behind SIU. Turgeon, who has improved the Shockers' victory total in each of his first four seasons as coach, will look to senior forwards Jamar Howard and Rob Kampman and senior guard Randy Burns, all four-year starters, to lead the team back to the NCAA Tournament. Howard is one of the league's marguee players but must avoid the foul trouble that often turned him into a spectator last season. Junior center Paul Miller has the potential to be a dominant player in a guard-oriented league, and Turgeon expects big men Zach Green, a redshirt freshman, and Kyle Wilson, a transfer from Illinois, to make an immediate impact.

Coach: Mark Turgeon (63-57, 4 years; 88-86 overall, 6 years).

Projected starters: G Randy Burns, 5-11/Sr. (12.4 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 75.2 FT%); G P.J. Couisnard, 6-3/Fr. (redshirt); F Jamar Howard, 6-5/Sr. (13.8 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 55.9 FG%, 78.4 FT%); F Rob Kampman, 6-8/Sr. (5.2 rpg, 53.6 FG%); C Paul Miller, 6-10/Jr. (5.6 rpg, 46.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1983. Last NCAA appearance: 1988.

Site: Wichita, Kan.

Home court: Charles Koch Arena (10,400). Website: www.goshockers.com

3. Northern Iowa

Outlook: The Panthers could be hard-pressed to match last season's magic, which included winning the conference tournament and making the school's second trip to the NCAA Tournament. NIU returns the deepest backcourt in the league but lacks a proven scorer up front after losing center

David Gruber and forward Matt Schneiderman. Sophomore Grant Stout played well at times last season, and coach Greg McDermott has to hope the team's newcomers develop quickly. The backcourt features six quality players-Ben Jacobson, Erik Crawford, Brooks McKowen, Chris Foster, Pete Schmit and John Little, Jacobson relies more on heart than talent to produce at an all-league level.

Coach: Greg McDermott (46-42, 3 years; 177-106 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Projected starters: G Ben Jacobson, 6-3/Jr. (14.0 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 42.5 FG%, 76.8 FT%, 39.2 3P%); G Erik Crawford, 6-3/Jr. (10.4 ppg, 5.2 rpg, 42.4 FG%, 83.7 FT%, 35.4 3P%); G Brooks McKowen, 6-2/So. (78.8 FT%); F Grant Stout, 6-8/So. (55.9 FG%); C Jon Godfread, 6-10/Sr.

Last regular-season title: 1982 (Mid-Continent). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Home court: UNI-Dome (10,000). Website: www.unipanthers.com

4. Southwest Missouri State

Outlook: The Bears should be a more settled team this season, even with the loss of center Monwell Randle and guard Merrill Andrews. SMS was inconsistent last season as coach Barry Hinson worked three freshmen-guard Blake Ahearn and forwards Nathan Bilyeu and Deven Mitchell-into the rotation. Ahearn, Bilyeu and Mitchell now form the nucleus this season. Ahearn set an NCAA record for free throw accuracy last season, making 117 of 120 attempts, and he showed big-time outside shooting ability. Hinson probably will turn to highly regarded freshman Drew Richards to replace Randle, and to junior college transfer Deke Thompson to take over for Andrews.

Coach: Barry Hinson (89-68, 5 years; 125-91 overall, 7 years).

Projected starters: G Deke Thompson, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); G Blake Ahearn, 6-2/So. (10.5 ppg, 97.5 FT%, 39.6 3P%); F Deven Mitchell, 6-5/So. (51.6 FG%); F Nathan Bilyeu, 6-6/So. (44.0 FG%); C Drew Richards, 6-9/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 1990 (Mid-Continent). Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Springfield, Mo.

Home court: Hammons Student Center (8,846). Website: www.sports.smsu.edu

5. Creighton

Outlook: The Bluejays must reload, particularly up front, as four seniors have departed. Their most experienced inside player is 6-8 sophomore Anthony Tolliver, whose development last season was slowed by a broken hand. Junior college transfer Dennis Howard and two freshmen-6-10 center Steve Smith and 6-8 forward Dane Watts-will be looked to for help. The inexperience up front could signal a return to a more perimeter-oriented attack, led by juniors Nate Funk and Johnny Mathies and senior Kellen Miliner, Funk, who led the team in scoring last season, is capable of being one of the conference's best players. Point guard Tyler McKinney is expected to return after suffering a serious eye infection at midseason that required two corneal transplants. His presence could make the offense more organized.

Coach: Dana Altman (195-109, 10 years; 278-176 overall, 15 years; NCAA Tournament 2-6). Projected starters: G Nate Funk, 6-3/Jr. (11.1 ppg, 41.5 FG%, 77.4 FT%, 42.9 3P%); G Tyler

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Darren Brooks, Southern Illinois	6-3	205	Sr.
G	Ben Jacobson, Northern Iowa	6-3	190	Jr.
G	Stetson Hairston, Southern Illinois	6-3	200	Sr.
F	Marcellus Sommerville, Bradley	6-7	230	Jr.
F	Jamar Howard, Wichita State	6-5	196	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Lonnie Randolph, Drake	6-1	165	Sr.
G	Nate Funk, Creighton	6-3	185	Jr.
G/F	David Moss, Indiana State	6-5	190	Jr.
F	LaMar Owen, Southern Illinois	6-5	190	Sr.
(Paul Miller, Wichita State	6-10	248	Ir.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Darren Brooks, G, Southern Illinois

It's hard to imagine what Brooks can do for an encore after leading the Salukis in scoring, rebounding and big plays last season. A superb defender, the 6-3 senior has the talent, quickness and savvy to influence the outcome on both ends of the court. He struggled with his long-range shot, but when the Salukis needed a big 3, Brooks usually got it. He figures to be smothered this season, but a strong supporting cast should keep him from assuming a have-to-do-it-all mentality.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

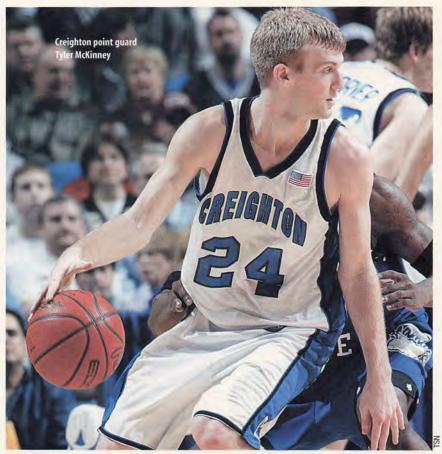
Tyler Best, F, Evansville

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Southern Illinois*	17	1	25	5
Creighton^	12	6	20	9
Northern Iowa&	12	6	21	10
Wichita State	12	6	21	11
SW Missouri State	9	9	19	14
Bradley	7	11	15	16
Drake	7	11	12	16
Indiana State	5	13	9	19
Evansville	5	13	7	22
Illinois State	4	14	10	19

* Lost to Alabama in NCAA Phoenix Region first round. ^ Lost to Nebraska in NIT opening round.

& Lost to Georgia Tech in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.



McKinney, 6-1/Sr. (39.1 3P%); G Kellen Miliner, 6-3/Sr. (42.1 FG%, 80.6 FT%); F Dennis Howard, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); F Anthony Tolliver, 6-8/So.

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Omaha, Neb.

Home court: Qwest Center Omaha (15,500).

Website: www.gocreighton.com

6. Evansville

Outlook: Despite finishing 7-22 last season, the Purple Aces did enough to leave coach Steve Merfeld enthused about this season. Some of that excitement is generated by 6-9 sophomore forward Tyler Best, who is eligible after transferring from Charlotte. Best is expected to join 6-9 center Bradley Strickland, who tied for the league lead in blocked shots as a freshman, Matt Webster and Justin Petty to give the Aces a solid presence up front. The backcourt has experience with seniors Lucious Wagner and Andre Burton and sophomore Kyle Anslinger. Burton (9.3 points per game) is the team's leading returning scorer, and Anslinger is a top-notch defender.

Coach: Steve Merfeld (19-38, 2 years; 109-95 overall, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Projected starters: G Andre Burton, 6-5/Sr. (48.6 FG%, 42.9 3P%); G Lucious Wagner, 6-4/Sr. (4.6 apg, 40.0 3P%); G Kyle Anslinger, 6-4/So. (81.8 FT%); F Tyler Best, 6-9/So. (transfer/Charlotte); C Bradley Strickland, 6-9/So. (52.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Evansville, Ind.

Home court: Roberts Stadium (11,600). Website: www.gopurpleaces.com

7. Drake

Outlook: Eight players who averaged 10 or more minutes last season return, including all five starters. Point guard Lonnie Randolph, the first Drake player to be named to the coaches' alldefensive team in a decade, is the best of the bunch. Klayton Korver, brother of former Creighton star Kyle Korver, made the all-freshman team while almost duplicating his brother's first-year statistics. Coach Tom Davis' primary concern will be improving the team's play inside; Drake finished last in the league in rebounding (33.3 per game) last season. Sophomore center Aliou Keita, a 6-8 transfer from Tulsa, and 6-8 freshman forward Brent Heemskerk will be called upon to produce in the paint.

Coach: Tom Davis (12-16, 1 year; 555-306 overall, 29 years; NCAA Tournament 18-11). Projected starters: G Lonnie Randolph, 6-1/Sr. (12.0 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 3.8 apg); G Chaun Brooks, 6-1/Jr. (43.0 FG%); F Klayton Korver, 6-6/So.; F Nick Grant, 6-3/So. (36.2 3P%); C Aliou Keita, 6-8/So. (transfer/Tulsa).

Last regular-season title: 1971. Last NCAA appearance: 1971.

Site: Des Moines, Iowa.

Home court: Drake Knapp Center (7,002). Website: www.drakebulldogs.org

8. Bradley

Outlook: The Braves have Marcellus Sommerville, last season's conference newcomer of the year, and a lot of questions as they try to replace three starters. Sommerville must have a big season for the Braves to be competitive. Senior forward Mike Suggs, sophomore forward

Michael Rembert and sophomore guard J.J. Tauai will be asked to contribute. Point guard Daniel Ruffin, a redshirt freshman, and shooting guard Tony Bennett, a junior college transfer, are among the newcomers who will be expected to produce immediately. The Braves also could benefit from the rapid development of two true freshmen, 7-0 center Patrick O'Bryant and 6-9 forward Sam

Coach: Jim Les (27-34, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Daniel Ruffin, 5-10/Fr. (redshirt); G Tony Bennett, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); F Marcellus Sommerville, 6-7/Jr. (15.6 ppg, 7.3 rpg, 40.6 FG%, 75.7 FT%); F Mike Suggs, 6-6/Sr. (42.6 FG%, 75.0 FT%); C Brandyn Heemskerk, 7-0/Jr.

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1996. Site: Peoria, III

Home court: Carver Arena (11,300). Website: www.bubraves.com

9. Indiana State

Outlook: The Sycamores still lack an inside presence, although junior forward Amani Daanish provides needed toughness. The team must get consistent scoring from someone besides junior guard/forward David Moss, the team's marquee player. Daanish and fellow returning starters Tyson Schnitker and Eric Gray must continue to improve, and ISU's newcomers must produce. Gray finished strong last season, scoring in double figures in eight of Indiana State's final 12 games and showing an ability to hit from the perimeter.

Coach: Royce Waltman (97-110, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Projected starters: G Tyson Schnitker, 6-2/So. (44.8 FG%); G Eric Gray, 6-1/So.; G/F David Moss, 6-5/Jr. (13.6 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 41.3 FG%, 79.2 FT%, 35.4 3P%); F Amani Daanish, 6-7/Jr. (5.0 rpg, 49.4 FG%); F/C Jerod Adler, 6-9/Sr. (42.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Terre Haute, Ind.

Home court: Hulman Center (10,200). Website: www.indstate.edu/athletics

10. Illinois State

Outlook: The good news is that four starters return; the bad news is that those four started for a team that won only four league games last season and appeared badly overmatched at times. The Redbirds' best player-forward/center Marcus Arnold-transferred to Illinois, leaving a gaping hole in the middle. Starter Greg Dilligard and reserve Najeeb Echols return up front, but the Redbirds must get production from their newcomers, particularly junior college transfer Lorenzo Gordon. Guard Trey Guidry led the Valley in 3-point percentage (.460) last season. Senior guard Vince Greene will be asked to step up and run the offense.

Coach: Porter Moser (10-19, 1 year; 64-53 overall, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Trey Guidry, 6-2/Sr. (15.2 ppg, 43.4 FG%, 46.0 3P%, 86.7 FT%); G Vince Greene, 5-9/Sr. (3.4 apg, 42.5 FG%, 91.2 FT%); G Gregg Alexander, 6-4/Sr. (78.9 FT%); F Lorenzo Gordon, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); F/C Greg Dilligard, 6-8/So. (4.1 rpg, 67.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Normal, III.

Home court: Redbird Arena (12,000).

Website: www.redbirds.org

Mid-American

Rank 12

By Doug Zaleski, Muncie (Ind.) STAR Press

PREDICTIONS

West Division East Division 1. Buffalo 1.Toledo* 2. Eastern Michigan 2. Miami 3. Kent State 3. Ball State 4. Marshall 4. Western Michigan 5. Akron 5. Bowling Green 6. Northern Illinois 6. Ohio *NCAA tourney pick 7. Central Michigan

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

-	17. C.			
Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Clas
G	Keith Triplett, Toledo	6-3	183	Sr.
G	Ben Reed, Western Michigan	6-3	225	Sr.
G	Turner Battle, Buffalo	6-3	190	Sr.
F	Markus Austin, East. Michigan	6-6	225	Sr.
F	John Reimold, Bowling Green	6-6	240	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Chet Mason, Miami	6-4	179	Sr.
G	DeAndre Haynes, Kent State	6-2	170	Jr.
G	Dennis Trammell, Ball State	6-3	190	Sr.
F	John Bowler, East. Michigan	6-8	255	Jr.
F/C	Yassin Idbihi, Buffalo	6-10	250	So.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR Keith Triplett, G, Toledo

Being productive has been the easy part of Triplett's career at Toledo. In his sophomore season, he became a 20-point scoring threat and a lockdown defender. He enhanced his numbers and status a year ago during Toledo's NIT season while finishing second in voting for MAC player of the year. The hard part is being a better leader. If he is the best player in the MAC, he must carry himself in that manner during every practice and every game and lead the Rockets to the NCAA Tournament.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Darryl Garrett, G, Eastern Michigan

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
East Division				
Kent State^	13	5	22	9
Miami	12	6	18	11
Buffalo	11	7	17	12
Marshall	8	10	12	17
Akron	7	11	13	15
Ohio	7	11	10	20
West Division				
Western Michigan*	15	3	26	5
Toledo&	12	6	20	11
Ball State	10	8	14	15
Bowling Green	8	10	14	17
Eastern Michigan	7	11	13	15
Northern Illinois	5	13	10	20
Central Michigan	2	16	6	24

* Lost to Vanderbilt in NCAA Phoenix Region first roun
^Lost to West Virginia in NIT opening round.

& Lost to Marquette in NIT first round.

WEST DIVISION

1. Toledo

Outlook: With all five starters back, the Rockets are poised to end a drought that dates back to 1981-the last year Toledo won or shared a league title. Optimism centers around Keith Triplett, a strong scorer and defender who needs only to become a leader. Triplett is one cog in a talented backcourt that includes Sammy Villegas, a former conference freshman of the year, and point quard Justin Ingram, last year's top freshman. That's a trio that can shoot the ball and play defense. Forward Florentino Valencia and center Allen Pinson are returning starters who must improve their interior defense. Opponents have had an easy time getting position inside, a trend that must end. The Rockets ranked near the bottom of the league last season in scoring defense, field goal percentage defense and rebounding. Coach: Stan Joplin (137-99, 8 years).

Projected starters: G Keith Triplett, 6-3/Sr. (19.6 ppg, 4.7 rpg, 3.1 apg, 47.0 FG%, 80.4 FT%, 41.5 3P%); G Sammy Villegas, 6-6/Jr. (13.7 ppg, 44.5 FG%, 40.6 3P%); G Justin Ingram, 6-2/So. (10.0 ppg, 3.6 apg, 41.9 FG%, 77.6 FT%, 39.0 3P%); F Florentino Valencia, 6-5/So. (54.6 FG%, 78.9 FT%); C Allen Pinson, 6-10/So. (47.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1981 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1980.

Site: Toledo, Ohio.

Home court: Savage Hall (9,000). Website: www.utrockets.com

2. Eastern Michigan

Outlook: The Eagles will rely on a well-stocked frontcourt that features one of the league's top big-man tandems in James "Boo" Jackson and John Bowler. The physical forwards combined to average 23.9 points last year and were two of the top three rebounders in the conference. When coach Jim Boone wants to go big, he can add 6-10 sophomore Dan Redder to the mix. Complementing that front line is small forward Markus Austin, one of the most difficult matchups in the conference. During a seven-game stretch in February, Austin averaged 20 points, shot 50 percent from the field and made 15 of 38 3-pointers. Most of the top players have experience. Only potential starters Redder and freshman guard Darryl Garrett will be playing catchup. Coach: Jim Boone (36-78, 4 years; 81-144 over-

Coach: Jim Boone (36-78, 4 years; 81-144 overall, 8 years).

Projected starters: G Michael Ross, 5-10/Sr. (40.4 FG%); G Darryl Garrett, 6-3/Fr.; F Markus Austin, 6-6/Sr. (13.5 ppg, 43.9 FG%); F John Bowler, 6-8/Jr. (13.3 ppg, 8.3 rpg, 49.8 FG%); F Boo Jackson, 6-9/Sr. (10.6 ppg, 7.9 rpg, 50.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Ypsilanti, Mich.

Home court: Convocation Center (8,824).

Website: www.emich.edu/goeagles

3. Ball State

Outlook: Ball State appears better equipped to challenge in the West because of two transfers—Anthony Kent and Charles Bass. Kent, a 6-11 junior college transfer who can play inside or outside, redshirted last season. Bass, a conventional 6-9 banger who should help on the boards, will be eligible in mid-December after coming from Ohio State. Their inside presence will be a welcome complement to the backcourt, which should be a strength. Dennis Trammell is a capable scorer and

unquestioned team leader. Sophomore Peyton Stovall is one of the conference's future stars. Matt McCollom is a three-year starter who provides defense and rebounding. The Cardinals also have good depth with frontcourt players Terrance Chapman and Tom Howland and guards Skip Mills and Jesse McClung.

Coach: Tim Buckley (68-56, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Peyton Stovall, 6-1/So. (3.8 apg); G Dennis Trammell, 6-3/Sr. (13.2 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 45.1 FG%, 78.9 FT%, 37.0 3P%); G Matt McCollom, 6-2/Sr. (82.7 FT%, 39.4 3P%); F/C Anthony Kent, 6-11/Jr. (redshirt); F/C Charles Bass, 6-9/Jr. (transfer/Ohio State).

Last regular-season title: 1998 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Muncie, Ind.

Home court: John E. Worthern Arena (11,500). Website: www.ballstatesports.com

4. Western Michigan

Outlook: The middle-of-the-pack prediction is a reflection of the division's strength. This is a quality team. The focus will switch from the frontcourt, which led the Broncos to the NCAA Tournament a year ago, to the backcourt. Guard Ben Reed becomes the go-to player. He could do for this team what Mike Williams, last season's conference player of the year with the Broncos, did in 2003-04. Reed will get help from point guard Rickey Willis and wingman Brian Snider. Willis must improve his shooting so opponents can't double on other players. Snider has developed into a good defensive stopper. Playing time in the frontcourt is up for grabs—five players will try to work their way into the rotation.

Coach: Steve Hawkins (26-5, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Rickey Willis, 6-0/Sr.; G
Ben Reed, 6-3/Sr. (16.0 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 47.4 FG%,
79.0 FT%, 45.1 3P%): G Brian Snider, 6-6/Jr. (4.1

79.0 FT%, 45.1 3P%); G Brian Snider, 6-6/Jr. (4.1 rpg, 4.9 apg, 41.4 FG%, 37.1 3P%); F Wes deVries, 6-9/So.; F Levi Rost, 6-7/Sr. (43.1 FG%, 37.0 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Cito. Valamazon Mich

Site: Kalamazoo, Mich.

Home court: University Arena (5,421). Website: www.wmubroncos.com

5. Bowling Green

Outlook: The Falcons have obstacles to overcome. Ron Lewis, perhaps their most talented player, asked for a release from his scholarship in August. Two freshmen, guard Chris Hobson and forward Isaac Rosefelt, left the program after last season. With the loss of Lewis, more will be expected from point guard Steven Wright, a junior who needs to match potential with consistency. Transfer John Floyd also will need to make an impact in the backcourt. Injuries have hindered the Falcons' frontcourt over the last two seasons, and starters Josh Almanson, John Reimold and Cory Eyink will have to stay healthy.

Coach: Dan Dakich (116-90, 7 years). Projected starters: G Steven Wright, 6-3/Jr. (6.5 ppg, 4.1 apg, 4.2 rpg, 1.7 spg, 80.3 FT%, 38.6 3P%); G John Floyd, 6-2/So. (transfer/ Oakland); F John Reimold, 6-6/Sr. (15.1 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 46.2 FG%, 80.0 FT%, 39.9 3P%); F Cory Eyink, 6-8/Sr.; F Josh Almanson, 6-8/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 52.8 FG%, 84.9 FT%, 56.7 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 1968. Site: Bowling Green, Ohio.

Home court: Anderson Arena (5,000). Website: www.bgsufalcons.com

6. Northern Illinois

Outlook: The Huskies must put things in order after a disappointing 10-20 performance. Any hope for success will depend on the team's guard play. Six players will battle for starting spots in the backcourt, led by returnees Anthony Maestranzi, Mike McKinney and Ryan Paradise and JC transfer Cory Sims. Maestranzi probably will start at the point. He's a capable 3-point shooter who can distribute the ball. The Huskies will have one of their tallest front lines in several seasons, headed by 6-11 James Hughes, 6-10 Bryson McKenzie and 6-8 Todd Peterson. Hughes bears watching as a potential breakout star. His 87-inch wingspan makes him a strong shot blocker, and he led the Huskies in field goal percentage at .606.

Coach: Rob Judson (39-50, 3 years).

Projected starters: G Anthony Maestranzi, 5-10/Jr. (3.8 apg, 37.0 3P%); G Mike McKinney, 6-4/ So. (47.9 FG%); G Cory Sims, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); F Todd Peterson, 6-8/Jr. (92.9 FT%, 35.9 3P%); C James Hughes, 6-11/So. (1.8 bpg, 60.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1991 (Mid-Continent).

Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: DeKalb, III.

Home court: Convocation Center (9,100). Website: www.niuhuskies.com

7. Central Michigan

Outlook: Lack of experience will keep Central Michigan near the bottom of the league. The Chippewas must rely on junior guard Kevin Nelson for production and leadership. Nelson, a solid outside shooter who averaged 12.3 points last year. will be joined in the backcourt by either senior Robert Sevalia or freshman Giordan Watson, two point guard hopefuls. Tony Bowne, Sefton Barrett, Tom Pantlind and 7-1 freshman Drew Walker will battle for frontcourt time. The Chippewas were hurt by the transfers of several players, including sophomore David Hoskins—a guard the coaches thought had a bright future.

Coach: Jay Smith (81-118, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 1-1).

Projected starters: G Giordan Watson, 5-10/Fr.; G Kevin Nelson, 6-3/Jr. (12.3 ppg, 78.5 FT%, 38.9 3P%); G/F Tony Bowne, 6-3/Sr. (40.1 FG%, 35.5 3P%); G/F Sefton Barrett, 6-6/So. (44.3 FG%, 36.4 3P%); C Drew Walker, 7-1/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003. Site: Mount Pleasant, Mich. Home court: Rose Arena (5,200). Website: www.cmuchippewas.com

EAST DIVISION

1. Buffalo

Outlook: First-place hype is rarified air for the Bulls, who should surge behind five returning starters from a 17-12 team. Buffalo features one of the conference's top inside-out combinations in point guard Turner Battle and center Yassin Idbihi. Battle is a remarkably versatile player who can beat teams as a scorer, distributor, leader or defensive handyman. Idbihi, a 6-10 sophomore, has a wealth of international experience. He can dominate as a scorer and rebounder. Two players to watch are senior swingman Daniel Gilbert, whose offense took a nice step forward last year. and junior swingman Mario Jordan. Gilbert also made 50 steals and became the team's defensive stopper. One key to Buffalo's turnaround season was its ability to play well on the road. The Bulls' seven victories away from home were the most in

school history.

Coach: Reggie Witherspoon (41-97, 5 years). Projected starters: G Turner Battle, 6-3/Sr. (14.5 pgg, 4.0 apg, 4.8 rpg, 48.6 FG%, 75.2 FT%, 41.7 3P%); G Roderick Middleton, 6-3/Jr. (38.5 3P%); G/F Mario Jordan, 6-6/Jr. (10.2 ppg. 4.1 rpg, 50.0 FG%); G/F Daniel Gilbert, 6-6/Sr. (4.2 rpg, 51.8 FG%); F/C Yassin Idbihi, 6-10/So. (10.3 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 48.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Buffalo.

Home court: Alumni Arena (8,500). Website: www.buffalobulls.com

Outlook: The RedHawks return 79 percent of the rebounding and 64 percent of the scoring from a team that finished 18-11. Their leaders are guard Chet Mason and forward Danny Horace, a pair of three-year starters. Mason is a tenacious rebounder with quick hands and good footwork. He's also a good defender. Horace, however, is unpredictable, a quality that frustrates coach Charlie Coles. Guard Josh Hausfeld and forward/center Monty St. Clair are Miami's top perimeter threats. Hausfeld has to command more defensive attention to lighten pressure on the inside game, which could benefit from the improvement of 6-11 center Nate VanderSluis. Look for guard William Hatcher and forward Nathan Peavy also to make contributions. Coach: Charlie Coles (138-104, 8 years; 230-188

overall, 14 years; NCAA Tournament 2-3) Projected starters: G Chet Mason, 6-4/Sr. (10.3 ppg, 7.9 rpg, 40.2 FG%); G Josh Hausfeld, 6-2/Jr.; F Danny Horace, 6-6/Sr. (5.8 rpg, 45.3 FG%, 39.5 3P%); F/C Monty St. Clair, 6-9/So. (84.6 FT%, 42.0 3P%); C Nate VanderSluis, 6-11/Jr. (80.0 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Oxford, Ohio.

Home court: Millett Hall (9,200). Website: www.muredhawks.com

3. Kent State

Outlook: After an NCAA Elite Eight appearance in 2002 and consecutive East Division titles in 2003 and '04, the Golden Flashes face a strong challenge. They are small in the frontcourt after losing 7-foot center John Edwards, putting guards DeAndre Haynes and Jason Edwin in the spotlight. Haynes emerged as a top player last season when he led the conference with 5.8 assists per game. More backcourt help should come from junior college transfer Jay Youngblood. The big question is the inside game. Forward Scott Cutley and center Nate Gerwig, a medical redshirt last year, are the only returning frontcourt players with experience. Coach: Jim Christian (44-18, 2 years).

Projected starters: G DeAndre Haynes, 6-2/Jr. (10.4 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 5.8 apg, 41.7 FG%, 35.6 3P%); G Jason Edwin, 6-5/Sr. (45.8 FG%, 42.3 3P%); G/F Jay Youngblood, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer): F Scott Cutley, 6-6/So. (47.0 FG%); C Nate Gerwig, 6-9/Jr. (medical redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Kent, Ohio. Home court: M.A.C. Center (6,327).

Website: www.kent.edu/athletics

4. Marshall

Outlook: Four returning starters bode well for coach Ron Jirsa, but there's a catch: Excellent

depth could be offset by weak chemistry for a team that features five seniors and five freshmen. The job of blending veterans with rookies falls to point guard A.W. Hamilton, a third-year starter and team leader. Hamilton has been steady, leading the conference in assists two years ago and ranking second last season. Marshall fans are waiting for David Anderson, who transferred from Oklahoma State three years ago, to break through. Among the freshmen who might contribute are guards Ryan Lamb, Casey Wohlleb and Joe Miles. Coach: Ron Jirsa (12-17, 1 year; 47-47 overall, 3

Projected starters: G A.W. Hamilton, 6-3/Sr. (5.4 apg, 80.0 FT%, 37.5 3P%); G Ronny Dawn, 6-3/Sr. (40.0 FG%, 39.5 3P%); G Tre Whitted, 6-4/So.; F David Anderson, 6-8/ Sr. (54.7 FG%); C Mark Patton, 6-9/Jr. (5.1 rpg, 45.0 FG%, 77.5 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1995 (Southern). Last NCAA appearance: 1987.

Site: Huntington, W. Va.

Home court: Cam Henderson Center (9,048). Website: www.herdzone.com

5. Akron

Outlook: Akron is pinning hope for improvement on a trio of young players and the return of injured forward Darryl Peterson. The youngsters-sophomores Dru Joyce, Romeo Travis and Jeremiah Wood-accounted for 33 percent of Akron's scoring and 44 percent of its rebounding last season. Peterson, who missed last year with a back injury, will be asked to carry much of that scoring load this time. Matt Futch returns as the primary inside option while forward Rick McFadden is a deadly long-range shooter off the bench. The Zips will rely heavily on guards in new coach Keith Dambrot's uptempo pressure system.

Coach: Keith Dambrot (1st year; 108-70 overall, 6 years).

Projected starters: G Dru Joyce, 5-11/So. (35.8 3P%); G Romeo Travis, 6-6/So. (5.5 rpg, 52.5 FG%); F Darryl Peterson, 6-5/Jr. (medical redshirt); F Jeremiah Wood, 6-6/So. (7.3 rpg, 58.6 FG%); F/C Matt Futch, 6-8/Jr.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1986.

Site: Akron, Ohio.

Home court: James A. Rhodes Arena (5,500). Website: www.gozips.com

6. Ohio

Outlook: Ohio, looking to replace its top two scorers, could turn to junior college transfer Mychal Green, a former Louisville signee. Green averaged 22.2 points and shot 51 percent from the 3-point line last season at Ohlone College. The other building blocks are forwards Tarren Harbut and Sonny Troutman, 6-11 center Clay McGowen and swingman Jeff Halbert. Harbut, McGowen and Halbert were part-time starters last season who provided secondary scoring and rebounding help. Senior point guard Diamond Gladney will be available to run the offense.

Coach: Tim O'Shea (41-47, 3 years).

Projected starters: G Mychal Green, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); G Diamond Gladney, 6-0/Sr.; F Sonny Troutman, 6-5/So. (4.2 rpg, 41.0 FG%); F Tarren Harbut 6-6/Sr. (44.1 FG%); C Clay McGowen, 6-11/Sr. (45.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1994. Last NCAA appearance: 1994.

Site: Athens, Ohio. Home court: Convocation Center (13,000).

Website: www.ohiobobcats.com

West Coast

Rank 13

By HANK Wesch, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

PREDICTIONS

1.	Gonzaga*
2	Dannaudina

2. Pepperdine

7. Portland 8. Loyola Marymount

3. Saint Mary's 4. Santa Clara

*NCAA tourney pick

5. San Francisco

6. San Diego

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Pooh Jeter, Portland	5-10	165	Jr.
G	Paul Marigney, Saint Mary's	6-3	190	Sr.
F	Adam Morrison, Gonzaga	6-8	215	So.
F	Yakhouba Diawara, Pepperdine	6-7	225	Sr.
F/C	Ronny Turiaf, Gonzaga	6-10	243	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

	COND I LIMIT			
Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Doron Perkins, Santa Clara	6-2	200	Sr.
G	John Cox, San Francisco	6-5	205	Sr.
F	Daniel Kickert, Saint Mary's	6-10	250	Jr.
F	Glen McGowan, Pepperdine	6-9	230	Sr.
(Brice Vounang, San Diego	6-8	250	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Ronny Turiaf, F/C, Gonzaga

After a memorable 2003-04 season opener, Saint Joseph's coach Phil Martelli said the key to beating the Zags was to play them when Ronny Turiaf was out with an injury. Turiaf, who averaged 15.5 ppg and 6.4 rpg, played a vital role as Gonzaga achieved a No. 3 national ranking, its highest ever. Turiaf contemplated jumping to the NBA but opted to finish his four years. He also expressed intentions of working harder than ever in the offseason—a scary thought for the rest of the league.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Floyd North, G/F, San Diego

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Conference		Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Gonzaga*	14	0	28	3
Saint Mary's	9	5	19	12
Pepperdine	9	5	15	16
San Francisco	7	7	17	14
Santa Clara	6	8	16	16
Loyola Marymount	5	9	15	14
Portland	5	9	11	17
San Diego	1	13	4	26

1. Gonzaga

National rank 20

WHAT WE LIKE: The Zags have been the conference's dominant team for seven years and a national force in many of them. Their six straight NCAA Tournament appearances represent the third longest streak on the West Coast behind Arizona and Stanford, WCC rivals were hoping Ronny Turiaf would pass up his senior season, but no such luck. And with his return, the Zags have a potential All-American capable of scoring, rebounding and defensive outbursts, which they will need against a tough nonconference schedule. In Turiaf, sophomores Adam Morrison and Sean Mallon and junior college transfer J.P. Batista, coach Mark Few has a front-line rotation that ranks among the best in the country. Morrison, an excellent shooter and heady player, was a force off the bench last year and an inspirational story—a diabetic condition forced him to take occasional pit stops during games to check his blood sugar and, if necessary, inject insulin. Morrison played for the U.S. World Championships for Young Men team over the summer.

WHAT SCARES US: Superb guard play, a team staple during Gonzaga's long run of success, will be tested this season with the departure of Blake Stepp and starting backcourt mate Kyle Bankhead. Someone from last year's team, maybe Erroll Knight or Derek Raivio, and at least one of the top recruits, such as David Pendergraft and Pierre Marie Altidor-Cespedes, will have to step up and fill the big shoes of Stepp, who averaged 14.6 points and 6.7 assists. It's not a given that will happen.

X-FACTOR: The Zags will play in the new 6,000-seat McCarthey Athletic Center, which replaces the 4,000-seat Kennel. The extra seats already are spoken for, and preliminary tests indicate the decibel levels could get just as high—or even higher—at McCarthey. But Gonzaga shooters will have to adapt to the new surroundings, and it might be tough to match the Kennel's level of intimidation on visitors.

A WEST COAST COACH SAYS:

Blake Stepp was two-time all-league, but they have Texas Tech transfer Nathan Doudney, and their recruiting class is really good. They'll be young, but once you've established winning at the level they've established, a lot of times the new guys come in and carry the torch. Pierre Marie Altidor-Cespedes is a tremendous player. Erroll Knight is a good perimeter defender. They might end up being more athletic and quicker than last year. (Ronny) Turiaf is a really good shot blocker, and he's aggressive and plays with a ton of energy.

SCHEDULE

N19	Portland State
Mat	Mantana
NZI	Montana

N24 Idaho N27 Illinois

.. at Indianapolis D1 Washington

Massachusetts

. at Seattle at Washington State

D11 Saint Louis

D18 Georgia Tech . at Las Vegas D21 Eastern Washington

D28 Oklahoma State . at Oklahoma City

D30 at Missouri at Santa Clara

at Saint Mary's Loyola Marymount

J15 Pepperdine J20 at San Francisco

J22 at San Diego J25 Northern Colorado Portland J29 F3 Saint Mary's

F5 Santa Clara F10 at Pepperdine F12 at Loyola Marymount

San Diego F19 San Francisco

F26 at Portland

BULLDOGS DATA

Coach: Mark Few (133-32, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 6-5). Assistant coaches: Bill Grier (7 years), Leon Rice (5), Tommy Lloyd (3). 2003-04 record: 28-3. West Coast Conference: 14-0/1st. Lost to Nevada in NCAA St. Louis Region second round.

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 1998. Site: Spokane, Wash. Website: www.gozags.com

Home court: McCarthey Athletic Center (6,000).

CTED

Blake Stepp*

Cory Violette*

HU	<u> </u>	EH								
*200	3-04	starter; bold names: p	rojected 2004	1-05 st	arter					
No.	Pos.	Name	Ht./Wt.	CI.	PPG	RPG	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
4	G	P. Altidor-Cespedes	6-1/180	Fr.	Speed	dy full	-court d	efender	and scor	er.
13	C/F	J.P. Batista	6-8/265	Jr.	JC tra	nsfer	average	d 20.2 p	pg, shot	62.1 FG%.
2	G	Nathan Doudney	6-4/198	Jr.	Texas	Tech 1	transfer	is eligib	le to play	1.
15	G	Colin Floyd	6-2/183	Jr.	0.5	0.3	0.0	33.3	100.0	0.0
24	G	Stephen Gentry	6-1/168	Jr.	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	100.0	0.0
42	F	Josh Heytvelt	6-10/220	Fr.	Shot	blocke	er with a	in inside	-outside	game.
22	G	Erroll Knight*	6-6/212	Jr.	5.8	3.1	1.5	49.2	75.0	26.3
33	C	Calum MacLeod	7-0/240	Fr.	Redsh	nirted	in 2003	-04; fron	n New Ze	ealand.
32	F	Sean Mallon	6-9/220	So.	5.7	2.9	0.6	60.4	75.8	40.0
14	G	Brian Michaelson	6-3/198	Sr.	0.8	0.3	0.1	62.5	100.0	0.0
3	F	Adam Morrison	6-8/215	So.	11.4	4.3	1.4	53.1	72.6	30.4
25	G	David Pendergraft	6-5/215	Fr.	Posse	sses g	reat sho	ooting ra	nge.	
5	G	Derek Raivio	6-1/172	So.	3.1	0.6	1.0	49.2	83.3	50.0
1	F/C	Ronny Turiaf*	6-10/243	Sr.	15.5	6.4	1.5	52.5	70.8	33.3
KE	Y LC	SSES								
Pos.	Na		Ht./Wt.	PPG	RP	G	APG	FG%	FT%	3%
G	Kyl	e Bankhead*	6-0/193	5.5	2.	2	2.8	50.9	80.8	54.7
C	Ric	hard Fox	6-11/255	3.6	2.	7	0.5	52.0	75.0	-
G	Tor	ny Skinner	6-5/198	5.3	4.	.2	1.0	46.8	60.0	37.5

14.6

14.2

4.6

6.7

1.5

6-4/190

6-8/250

83.0

43.1

2. Pepperdine

Outlook: With everyone back from a disappointing team that still tied for second in the league, the Waves figure to resume their role as chief challenger to Gonzaga. Last season, the Waves could not match the Zags' rebounding and interior defense, areas coach Paul Westphal is sure to address. In Derick Grubb, Yakhouba Diawara, Glen McGowan and Jesse Pinegar, the Waves have a solid front-line rotation. But while Diawara and McGowan earned all-conference honors last season, Grubb battled injury problems and Pinegar hasn't lived up to expectations he brought as a transfer from BYU. Additional height and muscle will be provided by incoming freshmen Russell Hicks and Oliver Prince, but making the transition from Canadian high schools to this level won't be easy. There's plenty of depth at the guard spots with veteran Alex Acker, sophomore Marvin Lea and redshirt freshman Kingsley Costain battling for playing time.

Coach: Paul Westphal (52-38, 3 years; 136-65 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Projected starters: G Marvin Lea, 6-3/So.; G Alex Acker, 6-5/Jr. (13.6 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 3.8 apg, 45.0 FG%, 79.4 FT%, 36.8 3P%); F Glen McGowan, 6-9/Sr. (17.8 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 49.2 FG%); F Yakhouba Diawara, 6-7/Sr. (18.9 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 50.9 FG%, 75.8 FT%, 48.1 3P%); C Derick Grubb, 6-9/Jr. (51.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2002. Site: Malibu, Calif.

Home court: Firestone Fieldhouse (3,104). Website: www.pepperdinesports.com

3. Saint Mary's

Outlook: The Gaels have improved in each of coach Randy Bennett's three seasons, and last year they were were one conference tournament win from the school's fourth-ever NCAA appearance. With the inside-outside combination of forward Daniel Kickert and guard Paul Marigney, the Gaels have a legitimate shot at taking that final step. Kickert is stronger, and his play is getting more physical. He was one of three Australians on college rosters invited to try out for his country's Olympic team. Marigney is a deadly long-range shooter who also loves to drive, draw fouls and get to the free throw line, where he shot 86.6 percent last season. Strong support will come from experienced guards E.J. Rowland and Jonathan Sanders, forward Brett Collins and 7-1 sophomore center Blake Sholberg.

Coach: Randy Bennett (43-47, 3 years). Projected starters: G Paul Marigney, 6-3/Sr. (16.0 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 48.0 FG%, 86.6 FT%, 41.6 3P%); G E.J. Rowland, 6-2/Sr. (13.3 ppg, 4.5 apg, 45.6 FG%); G Jonathan Sanders, 6-7/Sr. (4.6 rpg, 44.9 FG%, 81.0 FT%); F Daniel Kickert, 6-10/Jr. (14.9 ppg, 5.9 rpg, 50.6 FG%, 76.6 FT%, 39.0 3P%); C Blake Sholberg, 7-1/So. (52.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 1997. Site: Moraga, Calif. Home court: McKeon Pavilion (3,500).

Website: www.smcgaels.com

4. Santa Clara

Outlook: The Broncos had Gonzaga on the ropes last season before losing a heartbreaker in the conference tournament semifinals. OK, the tournament was held on Santa Clara's home floor, but

the Broncos' starting lineup included a freshman, a sophomore and two juniors, all returning. Doron Perkins and Kyle Bailey form a potent backcourt. One or the other led the team in scoring in 27 of 32 games. Depth at the guard position, which also features Brandon Rohe and Ethan Rohde, makes the perimeter a strength. But improvement is needed up front, where the Broncos rely too much on finesse and tend to struggle against power teams. One sign that could change: center Sean Denison's assertive summer play for Canada in the FIBA Under-21 World Championships. Another is the natural maturing of Travis Niesen.

Coach: Dick Davey (202-148, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 2-3).

Projected starters: G Doron Perkins, 6-2/Sr. (13.3 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 41.6 FG%); G Kyle Bailey, 6-2/Sr. (12.4 ppg, 3.4 apg, 4.7 rpg, 76.9 FT%, 35.5 3P%); F Travis Niesen, 6-7/Jr. (4.3 rpg, 47.2 FG%); F Jordan Legge, 6-8/Sr. (49.3 FG%); C Sean Denison, 6-11/So. (59.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 1996. Site: Santa Clara, Calif.

Home court: Leavey Center (4,500). Website: www.santaclarabroncos.com

5. San Francisco

Outlook: The Jessie Evans era begins with a more uptempo style and an experienced roster. Evans, a former top assistant under Lute Olsen at Arizona and coach at Louisiana-Lafayette for seven years, inherits 10 guards, the best of whom, John Cox, is a former all-conference player who redshirted last season and successfully petitioned for an extra year of eligibility. Cox, who averaged 15.3 points as a junior, will pair with returning point guard Andre Hazel, and backcourt mates Jason Gaines and Jerome Gumbs also will contribute. The Dons will be small up front, with most of the firepower coming from 6-7 Tyrone Riley, who had a solid first season as a junior college transfer and showed an ability to work inside. Riley could get help from 6-9 Colorado transfer Jason Carter and 6-7 JC transfer Johnny Dukes. Coach: Jessie Evans (1st year: 132-81 overall, 7

Projected starters: G Andre Hazel, 6-0/Sr. (4.7 apg); G John Cox, 6-4/Sr. (medical redshirt); G Jerome Gumbs, 6-4/Jr. (50.0 FG%, 36.8 3P%); F Tyrone Riley, 6-7/Sr. (11.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 43.8 FG%, 35.1 3P%); C Jason Carter, 6-9/Jr. (transfer/Colorado).

Last regular-season title: 1981. Last NCAA appearance: 1998. Site: San Francisco.

years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Home court: War Memorial Gymnasium (5,300). Website: www.usfdons.com

6. San Diego

Outlook: From their first NCAA Tournament appearance in 16 years to a 4-26 record, the Toreros experienced both ends of the basketball spectrum in a two-year stretch. But there's reason to believe they could bounce back in a major way this season. Frontcourt mates Brice Vounang and Brandon Gay were among the league leaders in scoring and rebounding, and forward Nick Lewis wasn't far behind. Floyd North, a transfer from Oregon State, comes off a redshirt season to inject athleticism, and Corey Belser's knee has healed, which bodes well for defensive improvement and an upgrade of backcourt play at both

ends of the court. Another positive is junior college transfer Michael Kirkpatrick, who is expected to provide a quantum leap in leadership and productivity at point guard.

Coach: Brad Holland (148-137, 10 years; 171-168 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Michael Kirkpatrick, 5-11/Jr. (JC transfer); G/F Floyd North, 6-4/Jr. (transfer/Oregon State); G/F Corey Belser, 6-7/Jr. (medical redshirt); F Brandon Gay, 6-8/Sr. (14.3 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 45.4 FG%, 78.6 FT%); C Brice Vounang, 6-8/Sr. (16.9 ppg, 6.8 rpg, 55.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1987. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: San Diego.

Home court: Jenny Craig Pavilion (5,100). Website: www.usdtoreros.com

7. Portland

Outlook: Last season's 11-17 record included road wins at Oregon State, New Mexico and Boise State and offered hope. Four of the top seven scorers return. Coach Michael Holton will build his perimeter-oriented attack around the junior duo of guard Eugene "Pooh" Jeter and swingman Donald Wilson. Jeter ranked among the league's top three in scoring (16.6 points) and 3-point shooting (.444), and Wilson wasn't far behind. Dreshawn Vance, who was voted to the league's all-freshman team, will be important because the Pilots regularly face matchup problems inside against stronger, more physical opponents. Help could come from center Ben Sullivan and 6-8 freshman Marcus I ewis

Coach: Michael Holton (28-58, 3 years). Projected starters: G Pooh Jeter 5-10/Jr. (16.6 ppg, 3.2 apg, 41.2 FG%, 86.8 FT%, 44.4 3P%); G/F Donald Wilson, 6-4/Jr. (12.8 ppg, 4.7 rpg, 45.5 FG%, 41.2 3P%); G Darren Cooper, 6-3/Jr. (transfer/Eastern Washington); F Dreshawn Vance, 6-8/So. (55.8 FG%); C Ben Sullivan, 6-10/Jr. (transfer/Cal State Northridge).

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Portland.

Home court: Chiles Center (5,000). Website: www.portlandpilots.com

8. Loyola Marymount

Outlook: Last season's 15-14 record was the Lions' best mark since 1996, but prospects for improving are iffy. The team must replace the forward combination of Sherman Gay and Keith Kincade, the heart of last year's team that averaged a combined 28.5 points and 9.9 rebounds. Charles Brown, Wes Wardrop and Damian Martin are scrappy gusards, and 6-10 center Chris Ayer figures to improve. But he will have to do so without the veteran support Gay and Kincade provided on the wings. Ayer will need help inside from 6-8 Matthew Knight and 6-7 Dustin Brown.

Coach: Steve Aggers (44-73, 4 years). Projected starters: G Charles Brown, 5-11/Sr. (11.5 ppg, 3.8 apg, 79.7 FT%); G Wes Wardrop, 6-3/Jr. (83.0 FT%); G Damian Martin, 6-1/So. (3.0 apg, 44.1 FG%); F Matthew Knight, 6-8/So. (41.8 FG%, 75.9 FT%); C Chris Ayer, 6-10/Jr. (5.5 rpg, 46.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1990. Last NCAA appearance: 1990. Site: Los Angeles. Home court: Gersten Pavilion (4,156).

Website: www.lmulions.com

Metro Atlantic

Rank 14

By Mike Harrington, Buffalo News

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

PREDICTIONS

1. Manhattan*

2. Niagara

3. St. Peter's

4. Fairfield 5. lona 6. Siena

FIRST TEAM

G

G

G

G

Pos. Name, school

SECOND TEAM

Pos. Name, school

Jerry Johnson, Rider

Keydren Clark, St. Peter's

Juan Mendez, Niagara

Michael Haddix, Siena

Deng Gai, Fairfield

7. Rider

8. Canisius 9. Marist

10. Loyola *NCAA tourney pick

Ht. Wt. Class

Ht. Wt. Class

Sr.

Jr.

Ir

Sr.

Sr.

6-0 170 Sr.

5-9 167

6-9 225 Sr.

6-8 240

6-6 215

5-11 170

6-3 198

6-1 185

6-5 205

6-9 245

Coach: Bobby Gonzalez (94-52, 5 years; NCAA

Projected starters: G Kenny Minor, 5-8/Jr. (48.1 FG%, 45.7 3P%); G Mike Konovelchick, 6-5/Jr.; G/F C.J. Anderson, 6-6/Fr.; F Peter Mulligan, 6-5/Sr. (10.9 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 46.3 FG%, 41.8 3P%); C Guy Ngarndi, 6-8/So. (50.0 FG%).

Home court: Draddy Gym (3,000). Website: www.gojaspers.com

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Peter Mulligan, Manhattan

Marvin McCullough, Iona

Kevin Downey, Canisius

Alvin Cruz, Niagara

Greg Jenkins, Iona

Keydren Clark, G, St. Peter's

Is there a more obvious pick? Last year, Clark became the first sophomore in 30 years to lead the nation in scoring—and at 5-9. Unheralded as a high school player, Clark has single-handedly moved St. Peter's back into the MAAC elite. Clark is simply consistent. He had an NCAA freshman-record 109 3-pointers two years ago and a school-record 112 last year. He can drive and dish, and his range extends seemingly from the Jersey City campus to the Holland Tunnel.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

C.J. Anderson, G/F, Manhattan

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	Overal		
	W	L	W	L
Manhattan*	16	2	25	6
Niagara^	13	5	22	10
Fairfield	12	6	19	11
St. Peter's	12	6	17	12
Rider	10	8	17	14
Siena	9	9	14	16
lona	8	10	11	18
Canisius	5	13	10	20
Marist	4	14	6	22
Loyola (Md.)	1	17	1	27

second round.

^ Lost to Nebraska in NIT first round.

1. Manhattan

Outlook: The Jaspers' bid for a third consecutive conference title received an unexpected boost in the summer when coach Bobby Gonzalez signed a contract extension through the 2009-10 season. Gonzalez was expected to parlay the Jaspers' NCAA Tournament victory over Florida into a higher-profile job, but he already is in the spotlight as the leader of the best team in New York City, and he has plenty of talent coming back. Freshman guard/forward C.J. Anderson, Gonzalez's best recruit in his tenure, will replace two-time MAAC player of the year Luis Flores. The rest of the recruiting class includes potential backcourt stars C.J. Lee and Jeff Xavier. The Jaspers play ferocious defense and will get plenty of points from Anderson, senior forward Peter Mulligan and junior guard Mike Konovelchick. But they're thinner up front than in the past and need more from sophomore center Guy Ngarndi. Jason Wingate and Kenny Minor have been a solid point guard platoon, and the two could play together this season. This team isn't as good as the past two league champions, but the league title still is the Jaspers' to lose.

Tournament 1-2).

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2002.

Site: Riverdale, N.Y.

2. Niagara

Outlook: Coach Joe Mihalich has taken his team to at least the conference tournament semifinals in five of his six seasons-including one-point losses to Manhattan the past two years-and the Purple Eagles should be contenders once again. Niagara has the conference's premier frontcourt player in senior forward Juan Mendez, who can score at will in the low post and rebound. Senior point guard Alvin Cruz, Mendez's high school teammate in Melbourne, Fla., has struggled with his outside shooting but usually gets the ball into the right hands at crunch time. The Purple Eagles have been an inside-out team in the past but will go more outside this season; guards David Brooks and Lorenzo Miles and wing J.R. Duffey will have big roles on the perimeter. There also is enough talent on the roster to replace two key losses, guard Tremmell Darden and forward James Reaves. This might be the season the school ends its 34-year NCAA Tournament drought.

Coach: Joe Mihalich (106-73, 6 years). Projected starters: G Alvin Cruz, 6-1/Sr. (6.0 apg, 40.4 FG%); G David Brooks, 6-3/Sr. (12.5 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 40.5 FG%); F Charron Fisher, 6-3/Fr.; F J.R. Duffey, 6-7/So. (42.4 FG%); F Juan Mendez, 6-8/Sr. (20.5 ppg, 8.8 rpg, 52.1 FG%, 80.8 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1970.

Site: Niagara, N.Y.

Home court: Gallagher Center (2,400). Website: www.purpleeagles.com

3. St. Peter's

Outlook: Just three seasons removed from back-to-back 4-24 records, the Peacocks might have been the MAAC favorite in 2004-05 if guard Shane Nichols, last season's conference freshman of the year, had not transferred to Wofford. St. Peter's still will be an upper-echelon team as long as Keydren Clark is running and gunning. Last season's Division I scoring leader should be even more unstoppable as an upperclassman. Clark will get his points, but the Peacocks must work on stopping the opposition. St. Peter's can be exploited inside (the team allowed a league-worst 75.3 points per game last season) and on the glass, where they were outrebounded by 4.3 per game. Credit Bob Leckie, a former New Jersey high school coach, with a tremendous revival of a once-moribund program. Now it's time to see if St. Peter's can actually do some damage in March, If Leckie can get more out of forwards Mark Curry, Jamie Sowers and Ron Yates and center Ivan Bozovic, the Peacocks could be in the NCAA mix.

Coach: Bob Leckie (35-79, 4 years). Projected starters: G Keydren Clark, 5-9/Jr. (26.7 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 4.3 apg, 41.5 FG%, 83.8 FT%, 38 3P%); G Terrance Watkins, 6-3/Sr.; F Jamie Sowers, 6-7/Sr. (10.3 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 44.8 FG%); F Ron Yates, 6-6/Sr. (5.4 rpg, 41.8 FG%); C Ivan Bozovic, 6-9/Sr.

Last regular-season title: 1987. Last NCAA appearance: 1995.

Site: Jersey City, N.J.

Home court: Yanitelli Center (3,200).

Website: www.spc.edu

4. Fairfield

Outlook: The Stags figure to be better than they were last season. Forward Deng Gai, the MAAC's premier shot blocker and low-post intimidator, pulled himself out of the NBA draft after attending pre-draft workouts in Chicago. Gai was limited to 16 games last season because of a severe ankle injury. Even without him, the Stags allowed just 64.2 ppg last year with a frenetic, in-your-face defense. A full-strength Gai will offset the loss of Rob Thomson, who tripled his scoring output as a senior and emerged as an all-conference player. Tyquawn Goode—last season's conference defensive player of the year-DeWitt Maxwell, Kudjo Sogadzi and sharpshooter Michael Bell comprise an eclectic mix in the backcourt that can drive opponents crazy at both ends.

Coach: Tim O'Toole (88-86, 6 years). Projected starters: G Tyquawn Goode, 5-5/Sr.

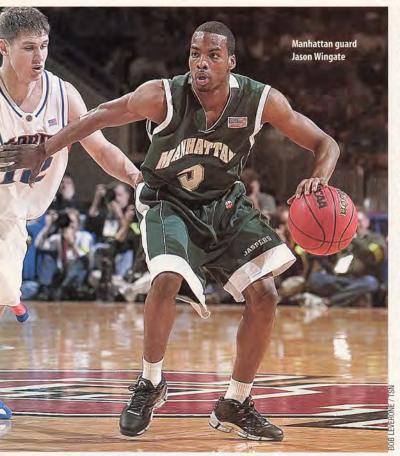
(3.3 apg): G Michael Bell, 6-4/Jr. (43.2 FG%, 40.9 3P%); G Kudjo Sogadzi, 6-2/Sr. (78.9 FT%); F DeWitt Maxwell, 6-5/Jr. (10.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 50.0 FG%); F Deng Gai, 6-9/Sr. (13.3 ppg, 8.6 rpg, 4.2 bpg, 41.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1996 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1997.

Site: Fairfield, Conn.

Home court: Arena at Harbor Yards (9,500). Website: www.fairfieldstags.com

Outlook: Which long team will show up? Jeff Ruland's squad has plenty of talent, but the players need to be more consistent. That inconsistency was reflected in the team's defense (74.9 points allowed per game) and carelessness with the ball (16 turnovers per game). Depth is not a problem-all five starters return-and the frontcourt is in good hands with senior center Greg Jenkins, sophomore forward Anthony Bruin and 6-8 freshman center Gary Springer. The backcourt options include juniors Steve Burtt, Ricky Soliver



and Marvin McCullough, all of whom can be brilliant and baffling. Freshman Taguan Evans enters the mix this season. In previous years, lona could be penciled into the top half of the conference standings; now the Gaels have to earn their way back in.

Coach: Jeff Ruland (99-83, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Marvin McCullough, 5-11/Jr. (4.1 apg, 40.4 FG%); G Steve Burtt, 6-0/Jr. (13.5 ppg, 43.6 FG%, 81.8 FT%, 36.8 3P%); G Ricky Soliver, 6-3/Jr. (11.3 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 3.5 apg, 42.9 FG%, 75.6 FT%, 44.3 3P%); F Anthony Bruin, 6-7/So. (4.3 rpg, 54.7 FG%); C Greg Jenkins, 6-9/Sr. (12.1 ppg, 7.3 rpg, 2.1 bpg, 55.1 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: New Rochelle, N.Y. Home court: Mulcahy Center (2,611). Website: www.iona.edu/gaels

6. Siena

Outlook: The Saints finished last season 11-6 in their final 17 games to salvage a 14-16 mark, and they have plenty of reason for hope in 2004-05. The biggest reason is junior forward Michael Haddix, a ferocious rebounder who has become the go-to guy on offense. Defenses freely collapsed on Haddix, however, as the Saints had no other double-figure scorers in the frontcourt and hit just 32.3 percent from 3-point range. Senior point guard Tommy Mitchell will have to take over this team and eliminate the erratic play at the position that aggravated the MAAC's most intense fan base.

Coach: Rob Lanier (54-46, 3 years: NCAA

Tournament 1-1). Projected starters: G Tommy Mitchell, 6-3/Sr. (10.4 ppg); G Antoine Jordan, 6-4/Jr. (6.5 rpg, 88.7 FT%); G Mike Beers, 6-2/So. (35.9 3P%, 77.8 FT%); F Michael Haddix, 6-6/Jr. (15.6 ppg, 9.0 rpg, 48.0 FG%); C Brent Sniezyk, 6-10/Sr. Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2002. Site: Loudonville, N.Y. Home court: Pepsi Arena (15,000). Website: www.sienasaints.com

7. Rider

Outlook: The Broncs rebounded from a 12win season to go 17-14 last year, but they never have advanced past the MAAC Tournament quarterfinals since joining the league in 1997. An experienced backcourt, led by senior gunner Jerry Johnson, will have to make the difference if the Broncs want to end

that streak. Johnson hit 40.0 percent from 3-point range last season and can hoist it from anywhere on the floor. Guard Robert Taylor and forward Edwin Muniz also are capable of firing 3pointers. Johnson, Taylor and Muniz are three of the team's four returning starters. Steve Castleberry did a solid job in his first year at center and might average close to a double-double this year. This is one of the deepest teams in the conference, but now the Broncs must learn to take the next step.

Coach: Don Harnum (108-93, 7 years). Projected starters: G Jerry Johnson, 6-0/Sr. (18.7 ppg, 3.9 apg, 41.3 FG%, 40.0 3P%, 81.6 FT%); G Robert Taylor, 6-2/Sr. (41.8 FG%); F Edwin Muniz, 6-7/Jr. (11.2 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 40.8 FG%, 36.5 3P%); F Paul Johnson, 6-6/Jr.; C Steve Castleberry, 7-0/Sr. (10.6 ppg, 6.5 rpg, 54.7 FG%). Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie).

Last NCAA appearance: 1994.

Site: Lawrenceville, N.J.

Home court: Alumni Gymnasium (1,650). Website: www.gobroncs.com

8. Canisius

Outlook: The Griffs will play this season with heavy hearts after the offseason death of forward Richard Jones. The team has solid guards in senior Dewitt Doss, junior Kevin Downey and sophomore Chuck Harris, but it needs help up front. Mike Hanley, a 6-10 junior center, and 6-6 sophomore forward Darnell Wilson are the only returning frontcourt players who have received meaningful minutes. Freshman Steve McLean must contribute. So must Jon Popofski, a transfer from Central Connecticut. The Griffs had 10 losses of six or fewer points in each of the past two seasons, so their fortunes could change quickly if some of those close games go their way. Otherwise, the heat will be on coach Mike MacDonald, who has three 20-loss seasons in the last five years.

Coach: Mike MacDonald (88-115, 7 years). Projected starters: G Kevin Downey, 6-3/Jr. (13.1 ppg, 48.1 FG%, 45.1 3P%, 75.4 FT%); G Dewitt Doss, 5-10/Sr. (11.0 ppg, 40.6 FG%); G Jon Popofski, 6-2/Jr. (transfer/Central Connecticut); F Darnell Wilson, 6-6/So. (4.2 rpg, 47.5 FG%); C Mike Hanley, 6-10/Jr.

Last regular-season title: 1994. Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Buffalo. Home court: Koessler Center (2,100). Website: www.gogriffs.com

9. Marist

Outlook: It's a long way from the Elite Eight to a 6-22 team, but that's what new coach Matt Brady faces after coming from Saint Joseph's, where he was an assistant. Brady's ability to coach shooters was lauded in Philadelphia, and he'll have plenty to work on with a Red Foxes team that shot 39.3 percent from the floor overall and 31.2 percent from beyond the 3-point arc last season. A healthy return by senior guard Pierre Monagan, who had knee surgery, will help immensely. Brady has five players who averaged at least 21 minutes last season and not much depth after them. Brady's first recruit, freshman guard/forward Kaylen Gregory, will help. But his new club's victory total might be the only elite eight Brady sees this sea-

Coach: Matt Brady (1st year).

Projected starters: G Pierre Monagan, 6-1/Sr. (4.3 rpg, 76.7 FT%); G Jared Jordan, 6-2/So. (4.0 apg. 42.5 FG%, 35.7 3P%); G Brandon Ellerbee, 5-11/Sr.; F Carl Hood, 6-4/Jr.; C Will McClurkin, 6-9/Sr. (10.8 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 46.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie).

Last NCAA appearance: 1987. Site: Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Home court: McCann Center (3,944). Website: www.goredfoxes.com

10. Loyola

Outlook: New coach Jimmy Patsos, a former Maryland assistant, takes over a program that was 1-27 last season and snapped a 31-game losing streak with that lone victory. Loyola, in fact, has had just one winning season-in 1993-94, when the Greyhounds went to the NCAA Tournament-since joining the MAAC in 1989. Loyola couldn't do much of anything last season; it averaged just 59.9 points a game, gave up 74.1 per game, and allowed opponents to shoot 47 percent from the floor. Sophomore Shane James and junior Charlie Bell are set in the backcourt. All other jobs will be open for competition during what figures to be another long year. Watch out for touted freshman forward Freddy Stanback.

Coach: Jimmy Patsos (1st year). Projected starters: G Shane James, 6-3/So. (42.3 FG%, 40.5 3P%); G Charlie Bell, 6-4/Jr. (15.3 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 75.3 FT%); F Bernard Allen, 6-5/Jr. (6.3 rpg); F Freddy Stanback, Fr.; C Sean Corrigan, 6-11/Jr.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1994. Site: Baltimore.

Home court: Reitz Arena (3.000). Website: www.loyolagreyhounds.com

Colonial

Rank 15

By Michael Bradley, Free-Lance Writer

PREDICTIONS

1. Drexel*

2. George Mason

6. Delaware

3. Old Dominion 4. Hofstra 5. Va. Commonwealth 7. UNC Wilmington

8. Towson 9. William & Mary

10. James Madison
*NCAA tourney pick

*NCAA tourney pick

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Phil Goss, Drexel	6-1	180	Sr.
G	Isaiah Hunter, Old Dominion	6-2	160	Jr.
F	Harding Nana, Delaware	6-8	230	Jr.
(Alex Loughton, Old Dominion	6-9	235	Jr.
(Jai Lewis, George Mason	6-7	275	Jr.

SECOND TEAM

Po	Pos. Name, school		Wt.	Class
G	Mike Slattery, Delaware	5-11	185	Sr.
G	Loren Stokes, Hofstra	6-3	170	So.
F	Michael Doles, VCU	6-6	210	Sr.
F	Sean Brooks, Drexel	6-6	250	Sr.
F	Corey Cofield, William & Mary	6-6	220	50.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Alex Loughton, C, Old Dominion

His emergence led to the team's first winning season in five years. Loughton was league rookie of the year in 2002-03, and last season he was versatile around the basket. His power allowed him to reach the foul line often. He also was the league's second-leading rebounder. He'll attract widespread attention this season, but that just might help him get to the line more, where he converts 79.2 percent of his tries. Just a junior, Loughton has the potential to be a 20-10 man—and beyond.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Cantrell Fletcher, G, Towson

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Va. Commonwealth*	14	4	23	8
Drexel^	13	5	18	11
George Mason#	12	6	23	10
Old Dominion	11	7	17	12
Delaware	10	8	16	12
Hofstra	10	8	14	15
UNC Wilmington	9	9	15	15
Towson	4	14	8	21
William & Mary	4	14	7	21
James Madison	3	15	7	21

first round.

^ Lost to Villanova in NIT first round. # Lost to Oregon in NIT second round.

1. Drexel

Outlook: After several near misses, Drexel should win its first CAA title this year-assuming, that is, the Dragons rebound better and cut down on foul trouble. If not, they could finish fourth. Drexel's arguments for the top spot begin with senior Sean Brooks, a strong interior scorer who is listed at 6-6 but is closer to 6-41/2. The backcourt of Phil Goss, Jeremiah King and Bashir Mason is top-flight. Goss handles the scoring, Mason keeps everybody well-fed and King does a little bit of everything. If coach James "Bruiser" Flint could find a way to blend Chaz Crawford's defense and Tim Tillman's scoring, he'd have a heck of an inside player. Since he can't, he'll go with senior Danny Hinds up front and hope that Hinds' shooting eye improves. Junior swingman Kenell Sanchez played well last year, but he'll have a lot of competition for time from freshman Randy Hampton and N.C. State transfer Dominick Mejia, both of whom should contribute this year. Coach: James Flint (51-37, 3 years; 137-109 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

overall, 8 years; NCAA lournament 0-2). **Projected starters:** G Phil Goss, 6-1/Sr. (13.6 ppg, 40.6 FG%, 39.6 3P%, 87.0 FT%); G Jeremiah King, 6-2/Sr. (3.5 apg, 43.7 FG%); G Bashir Mason, 6-0/So. (4.5 apg); F Sean Brooks, 6-6/Sr. (14.4 ppg, 5.9 rpg, 59.7 FG%); F Danny Hinds, 6-6/Sr.

ppg, 5.9 rpg, 59.7 FG%); F Danny Hinds, 6-6/ Last regular-season title: 1996 (North Atlantic).

Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Philadelphia.

Home court: Daskalakis Athletic Center (2,300).

Website: www.drexeldragons.com

2. George Mason

Outlook: As long as Jim Larranaga is in charge, and players like Jai Lewis and Lamar Butler are on the roster, the Patriots are a title contender. Lewis is one of the league's premier interior forces and could average 20 points if his free throw shooting improves. Butler is a strong longdistance threat at shooting guard. The pair gives the Patriots the potential for an excellent two-man punch. The only problem is at point guard, where Terry Reynolds is gone. Although Tony Skinn handled the job late last year and proved to be a reliable scorer, he turned the ball over too often. Down low, expect to see a lot more of sophomore forward Jesus Urbina, who showed an ability to score close to the basket and was a solid defender. The team is counting on forward Will Thomas and guards John Vaughan and Folarin Campbell to become freshman contributors quickly. It also will help if the team tightens up defensively; opponents shot 44.1 percent on field goals last year. Coach: Jim Larranaga (124-84, 7 years; 321-253 overall, 20 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2)

Projected starters: G Tony Skinn, 6-1/Jr.; G Lamar Butler, 6-2/Jr. (10.5 ppg, 37.7 3P%, 82.5 FT%); F Jesus Urbina, 6-7/So. (53.8 FG%); F Will Thomas, 6-7/Fr.; C Jai Lewis, 6-7/Jr. (14.5 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 59.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2001. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Fairfax, Va.

Home court: Patriot Center (10,000). Website: www.gomason.com

3. Old Dominion

Outlook: Expectations are high after the team's first winning season since 1998-99. With four starters back and a more athletic recruiting class in tow, even better things should be in store for the Monarchs this year. Two juniors lead the way:

center Alex Loughton and shooting guard Isaiah Hunter. Loughton is coming off a big season and has 20-point, 10-rebound potential. Hunter demonstrated a strong scoring bent; he could become a major force if he improves his shot selection. Sophomore forwards Arnaud Dahi and Valdas Vasylius had strong debuts in 2003-04. and both showed the ability to finish well inside. They'll get help from athletic 6-6 freshman Jason Thompson, the North Carolina 1A player of the year. Another freshman, Brandon Johnson, has a distributor's mentality and will be expected to unseat Drew Williamson at point quard. Hot shooter Kiah Thomas and redshirts John Morris and Brian Henderson will provide depth on the wing. The X-factor is 7-3 freshman Sam Harris, an Australian who is expected to spell Loughton in

Coach: Blaine Taylor (42-43, 3 years; 184-108 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2). Projected starters: G Isalah Hunter, 6-2/Jr. (13.0 ppg, 40.8 FG%, 84.4 FT%); G Brandon Johnson, 6-1/Fr.; F Arnaud Dahi, 6-7/So. (5.5 rpg, 50.2 FG%, 37.9 3P%); F Valdas Vasylius, 6-7/So. (50.6 FG%); C Alex Loughton, 6-9/Jr. (16.6 ppg, 8.7 rpg, 48.8 FG%, 79.2 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 1997.

Site: Norfolk, Va.

Home court: Ted Constant Convocation Center (8,600).

Website: www.odusports.com

4. Hofstra

Outlook: The team was dealt an offseason blow when all-conference candidate Kenny Adeleke was dismissed from school. But with three returning starters, a trio of recruits ready for immediate action and two redshirts expected to make solid comebacks, the Pride has enough pieces to make a title run. It starts up front with Adrian Uter, who led all JC players in rebounding last year (15.7 per game). Add in 6-7, 255-pound Wendell Gibson, who is coming back from a torn ACL, and redshirt freshman Brian Sisti, and the Pride has plenty of interior muscle. It also has scoring power with Aurimas Kieza, who averaged 15.4 points in his nine starts last year. The backcourt is stable, thanks to the return of Loren Stokes and Carlos Rivera. Rivera tore his ACL two weeks after Gibson did, but he was an impressive long-range shooter before the injury. Stokes played so well late in the year (15.7 points in CAA play) that he earned team MVP honors. The two sophomores complement each other well and receive strong support from Woody Souffrant and Gibran Washington.

Coach: Tom Pecora (34-56, 3 years).

Projected starters: G Loren Stokes, 6-3/So. (12.9 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 45.6 FG%); G Carlos Rivera, 6-2/So. (10.8 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 40.3 FG%, 36.4 3P%); F Adrian Uter, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); F Aurimas Kieza, 6-8/Jr. (4.0 rpg, 45.3 FG%, 39.0 3P%); C Wendell Gibson, 6-7/Jr. (14.3 ppg, 6.2 rpg, 60.7 FG%, 77.0 FT%)

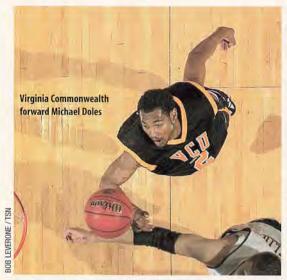
Last regular-season title: 2001 (America East). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Hempstead, N.Y.

Home court: Hofstra Arena (5,124). Website: www.hofstra.edu/athletics

5. Virginia Commonwealth

Outlook: If the Rams are going to repeat last year's 23-win season, which included a one-point loss to Wake Forest in the NCAA Tournament, they'll have to do it without their top two scorers



from last season, Domonic Jones and Troy Godwin. But VCU does have one big returnee, coach Jeff Capel, who spurned overtures from Auburn and Miami. He'll build around the three-guard alignment of point man Alexander Harper, who flashed talent early last season before hurting his foot, shooter B.A. Walker and Jesse Pellot-Rosa, an impressive defender. Up front, look for senior Michael Doles to be an effective inside-out player, capable of scoring from behind the line or in close. Junior Nick George is solid near the hoop despite his size (6-6). The arrival of 6-10 junior college recruit Calvin Roland brings much-needed help inside, and freshman Jamal Shuler has long-range shooting skill. Another newcomer, Michael Anderson, is a solid athlete who will compete for frontcourt time with steady senior Derrick Reid. Coach: Jeff Capel (41-18, 2 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Alexander Harper, 6-4/Jr. (76.2 FT%); G B.A. Walker, 6-2/So. (80.0 FT%, 42.1 3P%); G Jesse Pellot-Rosa, 6-4/So. (4.7 rpg); F Michael Doles, 6-6/Sr. (11.2 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 47.0 FG%, 36.4 3P%); F Nick George, 6-6/Jr. (5.9 rpg, 51.8 FG%, 45.9 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Richmond, Va.

Home court: Alltell Pavilion at Siegel Center (7.500)

Website: www.vcurams.vcu.edu

Delaware

Outlook: Big things could lie ahead for the Blue Hens, but they need to address turnovers and fouls. Last year the team ranked 285th in the nation with 16.9 turnovers per game, and it averaged 22.3 fouls. There's also the matter of replacing sharpshooting Mike Ames, last year's leading scorer (15.3 points per game), with Rulon Washington, who is more of a penetrator. At least Mike Slattery is back to run the show at point guard and hit the occasional 3. His biggest beneficiary ought to be junior Harding Nana. The former Virginia Tech player will be one of the league's best. Delaware needs a better year from Robin Wentt, who seemed to fade once Nana arrived. The team also has to get more production from sophomore Raphael Madera, who lacked stamina last year, and senior Calvin Smith, who can make hay inside.

Coach: David Henderson (65-52, 4

Projected starters: G Mike Slattery. 5-11/Sr. (11.0 ppg, 5.9 apg, 42.5 FG%, 38.5 3P%); G Rulon Washington, 6-1/Jr. (91.7 FT%); F Harding Nana, 6-8/Jr. (12.6 ppg, 8.5 rpg, 45.5 FG%, 45.0 3P%); F Robin Wentt, 6-7/Sr. (5.6 rpg, 47.1 FG%); C Raphael Madera, 6-10/So. (40.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1999 (America East).

Last NCAA appearance: 1999. Site: Newark, Del.

Home court: Bob Carpenter Center (5.000)

Website: www.udel.edu/sportsinfo

7. UNC Wilmington

Outlook: The Seahawks have led the CAA in defense the last 10 years. That's fortunate, because they forgot how to score last year, shooting 40.8 percent from the field and averaging

61.5 points per game. No player averaged as high as nine points last year, but things should improve in 2004-05. Three starters return, most notably guards Ed Spencer and John Goldsberry, who should comprise one of the league's better backcourts. Freshman Daniel Fountain, a high-scoring wing, also should be an excellent piece of the perimeter puzzle. A committee approach will be taken up front, with Mitch Laue, Taylor Lay and freshman Dylan Grimsley manning the forward spots and 6-10 freshman Vladimir Kuljanin expected to split time in the middle with Aaron Coombs.

Coach: Brad Brownell (39-22, 2 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G John Goldsberry, 6-3/Jr. (4.0 apg, 76.1 FT%); G Ed Spencer, 6-2/Sr. (76.8 FT%): F Taylor Lay, 6-6/Jr. (42.4 FG%, 45.0 3P%); F Mitch Laue, 6-7/Jr. (47.9 FG%); C Aaron Coombs, 6-10/Sr. (50.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003. Site: Wilmington, N.C.

Home court: Trask Coliseum (6.100). Website: www.uncwsports.com

8. Towson

Outlook: The Tigers have lured veteran coach Pat Kennedy back to the East Coast from Montana. Look for him to install an uptempo system, recruit like crazy and bring prosperity to the program. He has work to do, though. The team must rebound better and cut back drastically on turnovers. Kennedy hopes the arrival of junior college point guard Cantrell Fletcher will solve some of the turnover problems and get the Tigers out and running. Fletcher will team in the backcourt with sophomore Mike Green, who had a solid debut last season but was out of position at the point. Forward Lawrence Hamm is a solid finisher inside, and 6-5 Andrius Petkunas is a perimeter player with a good stroke. Lithe 6-10 senior Tony Dixon is the main man down low, but he must rebound with more authority and finish stronger from close range. Jonathan Pease is a key contributor off the bench, and Trevan Jackson needs to score more.

Coach: Pat Kennedy (1st year; 416-311 overall, 24 years; NCAA Tournament 6-8).

Projected starters: G Mike Green, 6-0/So. (10.2 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 4.4 apg); G Cantrell Fletcher, 5-8/Jr. (JC transfer): F Lawrence Hamm, 6-7/Jr. (10.0 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 45.6 FG%); F Andrius Petkunas, 6-5/So. (48.4 FG%, 39.3 3P%); C Tony Dixon, 6-10/Sr. (4.3 rpg, 2.0 bpg, 40.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1992 (East Coast). Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: Towson, Md.

Home court: Towson Center (5,000). Website: www.towsontigers.com

9. William & Mary

Outlook: Things should improve for the Tribe this season, but with all-league forward Adam Hess (20.3 points, 6.7 rebounds) gone and as many as four freshmen expected to figure prominently in the rotation, don't expect any quantum leaps. The top returnee is sophomore forward Corey Cofield. He had a strong debut and should blossom into an all-league candidate before long, thanks to his nononsense inside game. Point guard Nick D'Antoni is back to distribute the ball, but he must shoot better than he did last year (32.1 percent). If he doesn't, look for freshman combo guard Nathan Mann to get a shot at running the team. The shooting guard spot is up for grabs, with accurate returnees Reid Markham and Taylor Mokris and freshman Edwin Ofori Attah all in the mix. Joining Cofield up front are freshman Laimonas Kiselius and Temple transfer Hawley Smith. Plodding Nate Loehrke will get time in the middle.

Coach: Tony Shaver (7-21, 1 year). Projected starters: G Nick D'Antoni, 6-0/Sr. (5.7 apg, 76.3 FT%); G Edwin Ofori Attah, 6-4/Fr.; G Reid Markham, 6-3/Sr. (43.8 FG%, 80.0 FT%, 46.2 3P%); F Corey Cofield, 6-6/So. (13.2 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 56.3 FG%); F Laimonas Kiselius, 6-8/Fr..

Last regular-season title: 1998 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Williamsburg, Va.

Home court: William & Mary Hall (8,600). Website: www.tribeathletics.com

10. James Madison

Outlook: At times last year, JMU only had seven scholarship players, which contributed to the Dukes' 7-21 performance and the departure of coach Sherman Dillard. New coach Dean Keener. an assistant at Georgia Tech last year, got a late start recruiting, and the Dukes have just 11 scholarship players, only nine of whom are likely to contribute significantly this year. The backcourt is relatively stout, thanks to the return of shooting guards Daniel Freeman and Ray Barbosa. Both averaged double figures in scoring and displayed solid all-around games. Junior college transfer Jomo Belfor will fill the point guard spot vacated by Chris Williams, and freshman Joe Posey is expected to help on the wing. Things are shakier in the frontcourt. Top forwards David Cooper and Chris Cathlin need to be more assertive on the boards. Sophomores Cavell Johnson and Eddie Greene-Long could provide depth, but neither overwhelmed in his debut.

Coach: Dean Keener (1st year).

Projected starters: G Jomo Belfor, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); G Daniel Freeman, 6-0/Sr. (11.6 ppg, 43.7 FG%); G Ray Barbosa, 6-2/So. (11.5 ppg, 40.4 FG%, 77.5 FT%); F David Cooper, 6-7/Jr. (4.2 rpg, 42.4 FG%); F Chris Cathlin, 6-7/So. (4.3 rpg, 44.1 FG%, 50.0 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1994. Site: Harrisonburg, Va.

Home court: JMU Convocation Center (7,156). Website: www.jmusports.com

Southern

Rank 16

By Rick Nelson, The (Charleston, S.C.)
Post and Courier

PREDICTIONS

North Division

1. East Tennessee St.*

2. Chattanooga

3. UNC Greensboro

4. Elon

5. Appalachian State

6. Western Carolina

South Division

1. Davidson

2. Furman

3. College of Charleston

4. Georgia Southern

5. Wofford

6. The Citadel

*NCAA tourney pick

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Tim Smith, East Tennessee St.	5-9	155	Jr.
G	Terry Williams, Ga. Southern	6-3	175	Sr.
G	Brendan Winters, Davidson	6-5	195	Jr.
F	Jackson Atoyebi, Elon	6-6	240	Sr.
F	Ronnie Burrell, UNC Greensboro	6-8	215	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class	
G	Robby Bostain, Furman	6-3	185	So.	
G	Elton Nesbitt, Ga. Southern	5-10	170	Jr.	
F	Quan Prowell, Furman	6-8	210	So.	
F	Howard Wilkerson, Wofford	6-6	225	Jr.	
F/C	Logan Kosmalski, Davidson	6-8	230	Sr.	

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Tim Smith, G, East Tennessee State

Few players in the nation are as electrifying as Smith. As a freshman, he helped carry ETSU to the Southern Conference Tournament title. Last season he averaged 17.7 points and 4.4 rebounds and dished out 145 assists. Then he dropped 26 points on Cincinnati in a close loss in the NCAA Tournament. He has an unorthodox shooting style that's tough to defend, a lightning-quick first step and the ability to create his own shot on the perimeter. Most important, he makes his teammates better.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Chris Mitchell, F, East Tennessee State

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
North Division				
East Tennessee St.*	15	1	27	6
Chattanooga	10	6	19	11
Elon	7	9	12	18
UNC Greensboro	7	9	11	17
Western Carolina	6	10	13	15
Appalachian State	4	12	9	21
South Division				
Georgia Southern	11	5	21	8
Coll. of Charleston	11	5	20	9
Davidson	11	5	17	12
Furman	8	8	17	12
Wofford	4	12	9	20
The Citadel	2	14	6	22

NORTH DIVISION

1. East Tennessee State

Outlook: Coach Murry Bartow was handed the keys to the league's Cadillac last season and kept it on the road. He didn't tinker with the uptempo system laid out by former coach Ed DeChellis, and the result was a fourth consecutive North Division title and a second straight trip to the NCAA Tournament. Bartow's second season at the helm won't be as easy without forwards Jerald Fields and Zakee Wadood, the 2003-04 conference player of the year. But the cupboard isn't bare, Junior Brad Nuckles has improved each year and should be a force in the post. Blue-chip junior college transfer Chris Mitchell arrives just in time to help at forward. With less experience inside, the highscoring Buccaneers will rely even more on mighty mite point guard Tim Smith, who has scored 1,040 points and contributed to 47 wins in his two seasons. Smith's deep supporting cast includes sharpshooting guards Ben Rhoda and James Anthony. Coach: Murry Bartow (27-6, 1 year; 130-89 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Tim Smith, 5-9/Jr. (17.7 ppg, 4.5 apg, 4.4 rpg, 42.0 FG%, 75.3 FT%); G Ben Rhoda, 6-4/Jr. (10.7 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 54.3 FG%); G James Anthony, 6-2/Sr. (43.3 FG%, 42.1 3P%); F Brad Nuckles, 6-9/Jr. (4.4 rpg, 45.7 FG%); F Chris Mitchell, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (North Division). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2004.

Site: Johnson City, Tenn.

Home court: Memorial Center (13,000).

Website: www.ETSUBucs.com

2. Chattanooga

Outlook: The Mocs twice reached the league tournament title game in Jeff Lebo's two seasons as coach, but Lebo has taken his act to Auburn. Now it's up to former top assistant John Shulman to see if he can push Chattanooga past East Tennessee State. The Mocs will keep a fast-paced attack but will have to make up for nearly 70 percent of their rebounding and 60 percent of their scoring after the departures of point guard Ray Trowell, guard Jason Rogan and forward Ashley Champion. Double-digit scorers Chris Brown and Alphonso Pugh give the Mocs some returning lowpost weapons, but they will need help from a crop of new guards. Kenny Hunt, the Virginia high school player of the year, and junior college allstar Jerice Crouch headline the newcomers. With the loss of its top three players, Chattanooga could be doomed by more erratic defense. Coach: John Shulman (1st year).

Projected starters: F Chris Brown, 6-7/Sr. (10.6 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 46.8 FG%); F Mindaugas Katelynas, 6-9/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 67.2 FG%); F Alphonso Pugh, 6-6/Jr. (11.1 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 50.0 FG%, 43.1 3P%); G Casey Long, 6-2/So. (45.3 FG%); G Jerice Crouch, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie, South Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1997. Site: Chattanooga, Tenn.

Home court: The McKenzie Arena (11,218). **Website:** www.gomocs.com

3. UNC Greensboro

Outlook: The Spartans have won only 18 games over the last two years after playing in the NIT in 2002. Coach Fran McCaffery hopes a strong nucleus of returning players and an infusion of talented newcomers can revitalize the Spartans. Last sea-

son, forward Ronnie Burrell became one of the conference's top low-post scoring threats and a rebounding machine. Josh Gross should step in and provide much-needed scoring punch to an underachieving offense. Ricky Hickman returns after a solid freshman season during which he logged 16 starts and finished second on the team in assists. The Spartans must replace swingman Jay Joseph, their career scoring leader, and point guard Ronnie Taylor, but freshman Dwayne Johnson and senior Dwon Clifton could pick up the slack.

Coach: Fran McCaffery (72-75, 4 years; 121-114 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Ricky Hickman, 6-3/So.

Projected starters: G Ricky Hickman, 6-3/So. (76.5 FT%); G Ray Bristow, 5-10/Jr. (38.9 3P%); F Dwon Clifton, 6-5/Sr. (50.5 FG%); F Ronnie Burrell, 6-8/Sr. (15.4 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 58.4 FG%, 83.9 FT%, 50.0 3P%); F Josh Gross, 6-5/Sr. (4.9 rpg, 46.9 FG%, 44.4 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie, North Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Greensboro, N.C.

Home court: Fleming Gymnasium (2,320). **Website:** www.uncgspartans.com

4. Elon

Outlook: The biggest obstacle facing the Phoenix has been a lack of firepower. Second-year coach Ernie Nestor hopes he has addressed the situation with returning players and newcomers more suited to his transition offense. The attack will revolve around forward Jackson Atoyebi, an all-conference player last season-Elon's first since joining the league. Even with Atoyebi inside getting help from Rasmi Gamble and Chris Chalko, rebounding likely will be a weakness. Nestor has tried to remedy the situation by bringing in four forwards among his five newcomers, including JC transfer Le'Vonn Jordan. The Phoenix backcourt is experienced and could surprise teams. Guard Matt Nowlin led the conference with 82 3-pointers last year-and he doesn't even start. Steven Harvin will handle point duties and be joined in the three-quard lineup by Scottie Rice and Montell Watson. The Phoenix need to find scoring options beyond Atoyebo, Rice and Nowlin and solve their defensive woes.

Coach: Ernie Nestor (12-18, 1 year; 80-99 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Scottie Rice, 6-4/Jr. (11.2 ppg, 3.4 apg, 38.5 3P%); G Montell Watson, 6-1/So. (3.5 apg, 40.2 FG%, 75.6 FT%, 42.4 3P%); G Steven Harvin, 5-11/Sr. (3.6 apg, 75.9 FT%); F Jackson Atoyebi, 6-6/Sr. (16.1 ppg, 7.8 rpg, 56.2 FG%); C Rasmi Gamble, 6-8/Jr. (59.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1971 (Carolinas Conference).

Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Elon, N.C.

Home court: Alumni Gym (1,585). Website: www.elon.edu/athletics.

5. Appalachian State

Outlook: The Mountaineeers have been up and down since winning the conference tournament in 2000, which might explain the sudden decision to return to their fast-paced offense. Two years ago, the Mountaineers were one of the highest-scoring teams in the nation and surprised everyone by grabbing a share of the division crown. Last year, poor shooting caused them to fall off pace and finish 10th in league scoring. But there's hope for the Mountaineers, who return four of five starters, including leading scorer Noah Brown and athletic swingman Chris McFarland. Derek Thomas should

help on the boards. Newcomer Doug McLaughlin-Williams is ready to help inside after a year of prep school. D.J. Thompson, who enjoyed a fine freshman season, and Corwin Davis will need to knock down more 3s to open up the offense.

Coach: Houston Fancher (49-69, 4 years; 93-110 overall, 7 years).

Projected starters: G Noah Brown, 6-1/Sr. (13.1 ppg); G Corwin Davis, 5-11/Sr. (3.1 apg, 35.3 3P%); G D.J. Thompson, 5-8/So. (37.7 3P%); F Chris McFarland, 6-5/Sr. (11.7 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 47.2 FG%, 39.0 3P%); F Derek Thomas, 6-4/Jr. (5.1 rpg, 47.3 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003 (tie, North Division)

Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Boone, N.C.

Home court: Holmes Convocation Center (8,325).

Website: www.goasu.com

6. Western Carolina

Outlook: The Catamounts took a big hit when two-time league scoring champion Kevin Martin jumped to the NBA. David Berghoefer becomes the key offensive player and teams with power forward Lunzaya Nlandu as a formidable inside duo. On the perimeter, coach Steve Shurina will spread the load. Guards Corey Muirhead and Kyle Greathouse will need to increase their scoring. Shurina brought in a strong recruiting class, including sharp-shooting combo quard Trey Hopkins and freshman Antonio Russell. But without Martin, the team will take a step back. Coach: Steve Shurina (40-75, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Kyle Greathouse, 6-0/So. (3.1 apg, 89.5 FT%); G Corey Muirhead, 6-6/Jr. (4.9 rpg, 49.2 FG%, 62.5 3P%); G Trey Hopkins, 6-1/Fr.; F Lunzaya Nlandu, 6-7/Sr. (5.0 rpg); C David Berghoefer, 6-10/Jr. (12.4 ppg, 7.6 rpg, 52.2 FG%). Last regular-season title: 1996 (South Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1966.

Site: Cullowhee, N.C.

Home court: Ramsey Center (7,826). Website: www.catamountsports.com

SOUTH DIVISION

1. Davidson

Outlook: The Wildcats have the conference's best tactician in coach Bob McKillop, and with six of the top seven players returning, they appear primed for a fourth consecutive division title. Rebounding and defense again will be the cornerstones. The Wildcats have plenty of experience and depth inside and out. Brendan Winters led the team in scoring last season, but Davidson needs another option. On the perimeter, guard Matt McKillop is one of the league's best 3-point shooters, and Richmond transfer Jason Morton could provide more scoring. The Wildcats must cut down on turnovers. Inside, Logan Kosmalski and Conor Grace are among the conference's best forwards. They will get help from lan Johnson, who added muscle to his 6-9 frame this summer. This team could push past ETSU for an NCAA Tournament bid. Coach: Bob McKillop (239-193, 15 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Kenny Grant, 6-1/Jr.; G Matt McKillop, 6-2/Jr. (10.7 ppg, 42.5 FG%, 43.5 3P%); G Brendan Winters, 6-5/Jr. (17.8 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 42.2 FG%, 83.7 FT%, 38.5 3P%); F Conor Grace, 6-9/Sr. (6.7 rpg, 41.9 FG%); F/C Logan Kosmalski, 6-8/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 49.3 FG%). Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie, South Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Davidson, N.C.

Home court: Belk Arena (5,700). Website: www.davidson.edu/athletics

Outlook: This could be the year coach Larry Davis finally molds his talent into a championship team. Furman, which returns three starters and 11 lettermen to a team that won 17 games last season, is young and good. Robby Bostain, Moussa Diagne and Quan Prowell dominated the league's all-freshman team, with Prowell named top freshman. A fourth, Eric Webb, was fourth among freshmen in scoring. Steady point guard Tony Carter is back. The Paladins will feel the absence of Maleye Ndoye and Marijan Pojatina inside, but senior forward Nick Sanders is back and will be aided by Diagne and newcomers Stanley Jones and George Brozos. The Paladins will play their usual stingy defense, and now that they have the weapons to score, they should be a serious contender in the South.

Coach: Larry Davis (93-113, 7 years). Projected starters: G Tony Carter, 6-0/Jr. (3.9 apg, 41.9 FG%, 36.0 3P%); G Robby Bostain, 6-3/So. (10.2 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 79.1 FT%); C Moussa Diagne, 6-8/So. (4.5 rpg, 55.1 FG%, 45.0 3P%); F Quan Prowell, 6-8/So. (4.4 rpg, 53.3 FG%); F Nick Sanders, 6-7/Sr. (6.3 rpg, 48.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1991 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1980.

Site: Greenville, S.C.

Home court: Timmons Arena (5,500). Website: www.furmanpaladins.com

3. College of Charleston

Outlook: The Cougars have claimed at least a share of the division title every year since joining the league in 1998-99, but that streak is in jeopardy. They lost eight lettermen and three starters. The good news is injury-plaqued post player Bernard Jackson was granted another year of eligibility. Newcomer Josh Jackson and sophomore center Jeff Horowitz should help inside. Guards Tony Mitchell and Dontaye Draper are back to run the offense, and Stanley Jackson should be a double-figure scorer. Drew Hall, who played in 64 games at Georgetown, will push the perimeter players for minutes. Charleston will have to play more consistent defense to extend its title streak. Coach: Tom Herrion (45-17, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Dontaye Draper, 5-11/So.; G Tony Mitchell, 5-11/Sr. (12.0 ppg, 3.9 apg, 40.3 FG%, 78.5 FT%, 39.9 3P%); G Stanley Jackson, 6-2/Sr. (4.0 rpg, 46.9 FG%); F Bernard Jackson, 6-6/Sr. (4.2 rpg, 46.9 FG%); C Jeff Horowitz, 6-9/So.

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie, South Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Charleston, S.C.

Home court: Kresse Arena (3,500).

Website: cougars.cofc.edu

4. Georgia Southern

Outlook: The Eagles are coming off their best season since 1991-92, and optimism is high in Statesboro. Coach Jeff Price returns seven lettermen, including three starters. The Eagles' strength is their backcourt, which includes Elton Nesbitt and Terry Williams, who hit 68 3-pointers and shot 90 percent from the free throw line. There are questions inside, where Jean Francois will step in for departed all-conference power forward Frank Bennett. Freshman Louis Graham will join the post party, and Courtney Joseph is back at center. All

three wing players are gone from last season's team, with undersized Donte Gennie, freshman Anthony Marshall and JC transfer Willie Dunn possible replacements. The Eagles should light up the scoreboard again. If the interior defense holds up, the Eagles could soar.

Coach: Jeff Price (84-60, 5 years).

Projected starters: G Terry Williams, 6-3/Sr. (12.1 ppg, 5.4 apg, 90.0 FT%); G Elton Nesbitt, 5-10/Jr. (15.7 ppg, 3.6 apg, 2.3 spg, 40.4 FG%, 78.4 FT%); C Courtney Joseph, 6-9/Sr. (50.0 FG%); F Jean Francois, 6-6/Sr. (6.8 rpg, 41.8 FG%); F Donte Gennie, 6-2/So. (41.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie, South Division).

Last NCAA appearance: 1992.

Site: Statesboro, Ga.

Home court: Hanner Fieldhouse (4,378). Website: www.georgiasoutherneagles.com

Wofford

Outlook: The Terriers were riddled by injuries last season. Top four guards Adrien Borders, Greg Taylor, Justin Stephens and Eric Marshall all missed action. When healthy, the Terriers showed they could play with the best teams in the league, beating Davidson and College of Charleston. The team's strength should be in the post with Howard Wilkerson, who had eight double-doubles last season. The Terriers can rebound and their perimeter players can run, especially Borders, a league track champion. Wofford must improve its shooting and ballhandling and shore up a defense that allowed a league-worst 78.1 points per game. The Terriers again will play one of the toughest nonconference schedules in the country, and staying injury-free during that stretch will be the goal.

Coach: Mike Young (23-35, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Byron Fields, 6-2/Jr. (42.4 FG%); G Adrien Borders, 6-0/Sr. (10.9 ppg, 45.3 FG%, 37.7 3P%); F Greg Taylor, 6-5/Sr. (47.1 FG%); F Howard Wilkerson, 6-6/Jr. (13.8 ppg, 8.0 rpg, 57.3 FG%); C Tyler Berg, 6-9/Jr. (4.3 rpg, 46.1 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Spartanburg, S.C.

Home court: Benjamin Johnson Arena (3,500). Website: www.wofford.edu/athletics

The Citadel

Outlook: Pat Dennis is in his 13th season in the league's toughest job. The young Bulldogs are coming off a 6-22 campaign in which they scored just 58.6 points per game. The Citadel returns its backcourt of point guard Kevin Hammack and Dante Terry, who led the team in scoring last season. There isn't a lot of depth behind them, but freshman guard Travis Smith could provide a much-needed scoring option. The biggest weakness is in the frontcourt, where all-freshman pick J'mel Everhart is the only proven player. With the departure of Max Mombollet, seldom-used center Andy Miller will take on a larger role. Despite their offensive shortcomings, Dennis' teams usually play solid defense. They will need it.

Coach: Pat Dennis (136-196, 12 years). Projected starters: G Kevin Hammack, 6-0/Jr. (4.6 apg); G Dante Terry, 6-1/Jr. (11.3 ppg); F J'mel Everhart, 6-4/So. (7.0 rpg, 44.1 FG%); F Aaron Xia,

6-8/So. (46.8 FG%); C Andy Miller, 6-11/Jr. Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Home court: McAlister Field House (6,000).

Website: www.citadelsports.com

Site: Charleston, S.C.

Big West

Rank 17

By Bob Highfill, STOCKTON (CALIF.) RECORD

PREDICTIONS

1. Pacific* 7. Idaho
2. Utah State 8. Cal Poly
3. Cal State Northridge 9. UC Riverside
4. UC Santa Barbara 10. Cal State Fullerton
5. UC Irvine *NCAA tourney pick
6. Long Beach State

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

PIRST TEAM Pos. Name, school G lan Boylan, CS Northridge G Bobby Brown, CS Fullerton F Nate Harris, Utah State F Christian Maraker, Pacific C Guillaume Yango, Pacific G State State G-8 240 Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Joseph Frazier, CS Northridge	6-2	185	Sr.
G	Jibril Hodges, Long Beach State	6-2	179	Jr.
F	Spencer Nelson, Utah State	6-8	225	Sr.
F	Tyler Newton, Pacific	6-10	220	Sr.
F	Vili Morton, UC Riverside	6-8	250	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Guillaume Yango, C, Pacific

The Paris-born big man burst onto the national scene with two big performances in the NCAA Tournament. He scored 18 points and grabbed five rebounds in a dominant showing against Providence; he had 22 points and six rebounds against Kansas. A transfer from College of Southern Idaho, Yango improved as the season progressed, scoring in double figures each of the last nine games. His shot blocking and defensive ability make him a potent asset at both ends of the court.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Margues Crane, G, Utah State

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Conference		Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Utah State^	17	1	25	4
Pacific*	17	1	25	8
UC Santa Barbara	10	8	16	12
Idaho	9	9	14	16
UC Riverside	7	11	11	17
Cal State Northridge	7	11	14	16
Cal State Fullerton	7	11	11	17
Cal Poly	6	12	11	16
UC Irvine	6	12	11	17
Long Beach State	4	14	6	21

^ Lost to Hawaii in NIT first round.

1. Pacific

Outlook: The Tigers return 10 players, including seven seniors, from a team that won a schoolrecord 25 games, earned the conference tournament championship and recorded a first-round victory in the NCAA Tournament. Pacific's international frontcourt is one of the best in the conference. Senior center Guillaume Yango, a West Indies native, emerged last season as a force at both ends of the court and runs the floor better than most big men. Junior forward Christian Maraker, from Sweden, improved his inside play and won first-team all-conference honors. And senior forward Tyler Newton is long, athletic and an exceptional passer. The backcourt starts with 6-7 senior Jasko Koraikic, another Swede who presents matchup problems at shooting guard and small forward because of his size and athleticism. Senior David Doubley can play both guard spots, and incoming junior guard Mike Webb made 119 3point shots at Antelope Valley College last season. Coach: Bob Thomason (259-209, 16 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Projected starters: G David Doubley, 6-2/Sr. (3.3 apg, 90.2 FT%); G/F Jasko Korajkic, 6-7/Sr. (44.9 FG%); F Christian Maraker, 6-9/Jr. (12.6 ppg, 5.9 rpg, 48.3 FG%, 76.2 FT%); F Tyler Newton, 6-10/Sr. (60.5 FG%); C Guillaume Yango, 6-8/Sr. (10.8 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 58.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Stockton, Calif.

Home court: Alex G. Spanos Center (6,150). Website: www.pacifictigers.com

2. Utah State

Outlook: Despite finishing 25-4 overall and 17-1 in conference play to tie Pacific for the regularseason title, the Aggies did not get an NCAA Tournament bid. It's safe to say Utah State will be motivated this season. And the Aggies will have talent, especially in the frontcourt. Forward Nate Harris led the Big West in field goal percentage (.677) last season and earned all-conference recognition. Forward/center Spencer Nelson is a double-figure scorer with a motor that never stops, and experienced forward Jason Williams will look to improve his offensive production. Questions remain in the backcourt. Senior Calvin Brown and junior Chris Huber appear to be frontrunners to man the point, and newcomers Margues Crane and David Pak will vie for the shooting guard job. Cassiano Matheus could start at center after redshirting last year.

Coach: Stew Morrill (143-46, 6 years; 361-184 overall, 18 years; NCAA Tournament 1-4). Projected starters: G Chris Huber, 6-1/Jr.; G Marques Crane, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F Nate Harris, 6-7/Jr. (11.7 ppg, 61.1 rpg, 67.7 FG%); F Jason Williams, 6-7/Sr. (41.3 FG%, 80.0 FT%, 36.2 3P%); F/C Spencer Nelson, 6-8/Sr. (11.5 ppg, 36.2 3P%); F/C Spencer

7.8 rpg, 60.0 FG%, 47.6 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Logan, Utah.

Home court: Dee Glen Smith Spectrum (10,270). Website: www.utahstateaggies.com

3. Cal State Northridge

Outlook: The Matadors ruined Utah State's NCAA Tournament aspirations by beating the Aggies in the conference tourney semifinals. The following night, they came within a 3-point basket of upsetting Pacific in the championship game. That momentum and five returning starters make them

a serious Big West contender. Guard lan Boylan, the conference tournament MVP, can play small forward and both guard spots. Also back are sharp-shooters Davin White and Joseph Frazier, Eto Onyenegecha, and Thomas Shewmake. Onyenegecha is an athletic player with tremendous ability above the rim. Shewmake is a bruising scorer and rebounder. White and Frazier both can handle the ball, shoot and score.

Coach: Bobby Braswell (125-110, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G lan Boylan, 6-6/Sr. (14.5 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 43.8 FG%, 80.5 FT%, 37.8 3P%); G Joseph Frazier, 6-2/Sr. (12.2 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 54.5 FG%, 78.9 FT%, 38.1 3P%); G Davin White, 6-1/Sr. (12.7 ppg, 40.2 FG%, 36.0 3P%); F Eto Onyenegecha, 6-6/Sr. (13.0 ppg, 6.0 rpg, 49.6 FG%, 45.0 3P%); C Thomas Shewmake, 6-10/So. (6.6 rpg, 1.5 bpg 45.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2001 (Big Sky). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Northridge, Calif.

Home court: The Matadome (1,600). Website: www.gomatadors.com

4. UC Santa Barbara

Outlook: The Gauchos return four of their top five scorers. Coach Bob Williams' team is experienced, but the big men will have to produce more points for the team to seriously contend. The starting frontcourt returns forwards Casey Cook, who is coming off his best season, and Cameron Goettsche, who grabbed a team-high 153 rebounds. Sophomore forward Glenn Turner should play a more prominent role, and redshirt freshman forward Chris Devine will be expected to contribute. The backcourt is deep. Joe See led the team with 44 3-point field goals, and Cecil Brown added 24. Swingman Josh Davis is a solid defender who will look to score more. Chrismen Oliver will battle See for the starting point spot. Oliver is a better playmaker; See is a better outside shooter.

Coach: Bob Williams (96-79, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Cecil Brown, 6-4/Jr. (41.0 FG%, 37.5 3P%); G Joe See, 6-0/Jr. (45.9 FG%, 42.7 3P%); G/F Josh Davis, 6-5/Jr. (42.2 FG%, 40.9 3P%); F Casey Cook, 6-8/Sr. (4.6 rpg, 49.7 FG%, 37.5 3P%); F Cameron Goettsche, 6-9/Jr. (5.5 rpg, 48.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2002. Site: Santa Barbara, Calif. Home court: Thunderdome (6,000). Website: www.ucsbgauchos.com

5. UC Irvine

Outlook: Coach Pat Douglass has work to do. Last year his team dropped to 11-17 and didn't make the conference tournament for the first time since 1999. There are a lot of holes to fill. A good starting point is Jeff Gloger, a smart floor general, crafty defender and solid rebounder. Gloger and backcourt mate Ross Schraeder like to push the ball. Greg Ethington is the only returning post player with Division I experience, and Douglass will try to integrate seven new players into his system. Freshman Darren Fells, a 6-7 forward, and 6-9 JC transfer Andrew Bruckner will help inside. Aaron Fitzgerald and Shamar Armstrong will give Irvine better ballhandling quickness. Coach: Pat Douglass (106-94, 7 years; 482-212

overall, 23 years). **Projected starters:** G Jeff Gloger, 6-4/Jr. (6.3

rpg, 4.2 apg, 46.4 FG%, 45.5 3P%); G/F Ross

Schraeder, 6-5/Jr. (43.5 FG%, 75.8 FT%, 40.5 3P%); F Nick Campbell, 6-6/So. (87.5 FT%); F Andrew Bruckner, 6-9/So. (JC transfer); C Greg Ethington, 6-8/Sr. (43.5 FG%, 35.0 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Irvine, Calif.

Home court: Bren Events Center (5,000). Website: www.athletics.uci.edu

6. Long Beach State

Outlook: Larry Reynolds has a more mature team and enough talent to surprise this year. The 49ers return only one starter, but Jibril Hodges. the son of former NBA guard Craig Hodges, is a good one. He could team with JC point quard Keion Kindred and get nice backup help from returnees Louis Darby and Kevin Houston. Anthony Coleman, who missed all but two games because of a stress fracture last year, could make the difference in a run at not finishing last. He has help from JC transfers Erik Atman, Shawn Hawkins and Sam Byrd. Sophomore forward Onye lbekwe, a transfer from Oklahoma State, will provide a lift when he becomes eligible in December. Coach: Larry Reynolds (11-43, 2 years; 121-78 overall, 7 years).

Projected starters: G Jibril Hodges, 6-2/Jr. (10.2 ppg, 79.6 FT%, 38.2 3P%); G Keion Kindred, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); F Anthony Coleman, 6-11/Sr. (7.0 rpg, 75.0 FT%); F Shawn Hawkins, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer); F Onye Ibekwe, 6-7/So. (transfer/Oklahoma State).

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 1995. Site: Long Beach, Calif. Home court: The Pyramid (5,000). Website: www.longbeachstate.com

7 Idaho

Outlook: Idaho is playing its last season in the Big West before moving to the Western Athletic Conference. Tanoris Shepard has the most experience among a returning cast that will be short on scoring—no returnee averaged double figures. Coach Leonard Perry needs more production from starters Dandrick Jones, Armend Kahrimanovic and Lionel Davis as well as a breakout effort from David Radlovic, who started 12 games last year. Backcourt help should come from holdover Dillon Higdon and JC transfer Tihon Johnson and freshmen Jason Bowden-Key and Jerod Haynes. Perry's teams are noted for scrappiness on defense and outside shooting.

Coach: Leonard Perry (36-50, 3 years). Projected starters: G Tanoris Shepard, 5-11/Sr. (76.5 FT%); G Dandrick Jones, 6-4/Sr.; F Armend Kahrimanovic, 6-6/Sr. (78.9 FT%); F Lionel Davis, 6-8/Sr. (4.0 rpg, 44.0 FG%); C David Radlovic, 6-9/Jr. (41.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1990 (Big Sky). Last NCAA appearance: 1990. Site: Moscow, Idaho.

Home court: Crown Spectrum (7,000).

Website: www.uiathletics.com

8. Cal Poly

Outlook: The Mustangs beat California and USC early last season before stumbling badly in conference play. Center Varnie Dennis and forward Shane Schilling, who combined for 34.6 points per game last season, will be tough to replace. But coach Kevin Bromley likes the chemistry among his 12 returnees. All-conference guard Kameron Gray is back, as is forward Nick Enzweiler. Bromley will get help inside from 6-11 redshirt

center Phil Johnson, who was sidelined by a knee injury, and overall from a strong recruiting class. Freshman Lew Finnegan will contend for the point guard job, and freshman forward Andrew Haskins is the team's best athlete. Bromley will continue to run the uptempo offense that produced 70.4 points per game last season.

Coach: Kevin Bromley (46-54, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Kameron Gray, 6-1/Jr. (13.1 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 3.1 apg, 41.7 FG%, 78.1 FT%, 36.2 3P%); G Lew Finnegan, 6-4/Fr.; F Nick Enzweiler, 6-6/Sr. (44.0 FG%, 80.5 FT%, 39.8 3P%); F John Manley, 6-8/So. (40.4 FG%); C Phil Johnson, 6-11/Jr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: San Luis Obispo, Calif. Home court: Mott Gymnasium (3,032).

Website: www.gopoly.com

9. UC Riverside

Outlook: Coach John Masi patiently built his program, working toward establishing an identity that was supposed to come to fruition this season, the program's third in Division I. The Highlanders earned some key victories late last year and qualified for their first Big West tournament. But just as anticipation for a breakout year was building, leading scorer Nate Carter transferred to Oklahoma. The loss puts an even greater burden on forward Vili Morton, an excellent rebounder and inside scorer. Morton will be looked upon to do even more after averaging 12.3 points and 6.3 rebounds with an injured foot. Guard Rickey Porter returns after averaging 7.8 points per game.

Coach: John Masi (453-250, 25 years).

Projected starters: G Rickey Porter, 6-3/Jr. (37.2 39%); G Brett Ost, 6-1/Sr.; F Vili Morton, 6-8/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 59.9 FG%); F Matt Benson, 6-6/Jr.; C Klaus Schille, 6-11/Jr. (53.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Riverside, Calif.

Home court: Student Recreation Center (3,168). Website: www.athletics.ucr.edu

10. Cal State Fullerton

Outlook: Bob Burton proved himself by guiding a team beset with off-court problems to the conference tournament. Now, Benson and his team are in a serious rebuilding mode. The Titans lost eight players and will be perimeter-oriented this season. Guard Bobby Brown was the conference freshman of the year after averaging 13.2 points, but the outside-shooting specialist must improve his on-ball defense. The Titans could get a lift in December if high-scoring guard Ralphy Holmes becomes eligible. Small forwards Yaphett King and Hardy Asprilla return, and Burton is high on three transfers: guard Jermaine Harper from Virginia, center Lloyd Walls from Wright State and forward Jamaal Brown, who brings NCAA experience with him from Western Kentucky.

Coach: Bob Burton (11-17, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Bobby Brown, 6-1/So. (13.2 ppg, 3.5 apg, 40.2 FG%, 85.4 FT%, 40.5 3P%); G Jermaine Harper, 6-3/Jr. (transfer/Virginia); G Ralphy Holmes, 6-4/Sr. (redshirt); F Hardy Asprilla, 6-5/Sr. (5.1 rpg); C Lloyd Walls, 6-9/Sr. (transfer/Wright State).

Last regular-season title: 1976 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1978.

Site: Fullerton, Calif.

Home court: Titan Gym (4,000). Website: www.titansports.org

Sun Belt

Rank 18

DAN McDonald, Lafayette (La.)
Daily Advertiser

PREDICTIONS

East Division
1. Middle Tennessee
2. Arkansas-Little Rock
3. Arkansas State

1. Louisiana-Lafayette*
2. New Orleans
3. North Texas

West Division

4. Western Kentucky 5. Florida International

4. South Alabama 5. Denver

*NCAA tourney pick

6. New Mexico State

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Mike Dean, Middle Tennessee	6-3	190	Sr.
G	Leonard Hopkins, North Texas	6-3	190	Sr.
G	Dewarick Spencer, Arkansas St.	6-4	180	Sr.
F	Brian Hamilton, LaLafayette	6-6	186	Sr.
1	Stove Thomas Middle Tennessee	6.0	200	Cr

SECOND TEAM

	. Name, school	Ht.	18/4	Class
POS	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Orien Greene, LaLafayette	6-4	209	Sr.
G	Erik Benzel, Denver	6-1	175	Sr.
G	Bo McCalebb, New Orleans	6-0	180	So.
G	J.J. Montgomery, Arkansas St.	6-5	200	Sr.
G/F	R. Hardman, ArkLittle Rock	6-6	225	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Leonard Hopkins, G, North Texas

The backcourt-heavy Sun Belt has many shooters but few scorers, and Hopkins definitely falls in the latter category. The Mean Green guard got off to a slow start in 2003-04 after missing a season with a foot injury, but he became a premier go-to guy. Hopkins led UNT in scoring in 10 of its last 12 games, including 27 points in a conference tournament loss to eventual champ New Orleans. He has the rare combination of a good shooting touch and the athleticism to create a shot on his own.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Mario Jointer, G, South Alabama

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
East Division				
Arkansas-Little Rock	9	5	17	12
Western Kentucky	8	6	15	13
Middle Tennessee	8	6	17	12
Arkansas State	7	7	17	11
Florida International	1	13	5	22
West Division				
Louisiana-Lafayette*	12	3	20	9
New Orleans	9	6	17	14
North Texas	8	7	13	15
South Alabama	6	9	12	16
Denver	6	9	14	13
New Mexico State	6	9	13	14

East Division

1. Middle Tennessee

Outlook: Tommy Gunn, Middle Tennessee's top player and the best name in the conference, is gone. But the rest of the Blue Raiders are back, and third-year coach Kermit Davis should start reaping the benefits of consecutive recruiting classes that ranked tops in the league. The biggest addition is 6-9 former Georgia center Steve Thomas, who becomes eligible in December. He will provide much-needed inside help for leading rebounder Michael Cuffee, a swingman who averaged 5.8 per game. This team should be solid on the perimeter. Mike Dean, the conference's third-leading scorer, was red hot down the stretch before breaking his hand two days before the league tournament. Dean, Cuffee, forward Alex Weekes and point guard Bryan Smithson led Middle Tennessee to five wins in six games at the end of the year before a loss to Louisiana-Lafavette in the tourney semifinals. If Thomas can plug up in the middle, the Raiders shouldn't have any holes.

Coach: Kermit Davis (33-26, 2 years; 104-75 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2). Projected starters: G Mike Dean, 6-3/Sr. (16.2 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 76.1 FT%, 43.7 3P%); G Bryan Smithson, 5-11/So. (3.9 apg, 35.2 3P%); G/F Michael Cuffee, 6-5/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 46.3 FG%, 42.6 3P%); F Alex Weekes, 6-8/So. (47.5 FG%); C Steve Thomas, 6-9/Sr. (transfer/Georgia).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1989. Site: Murfreesboro, Tenn. Home court: Murphy Center (11,520). Website: www.goblueraiders.com

2. Arkansas-Little Rock

Outlook: UALR had a first-year coach and only one returning starter last season, a number that shrunk to zero when two-time all-conference pick Nick Zachery left the team in December. All the Trojans did from that point was go 9-5 in the league and win the East Division, a rally that helped Steve Shields win coach of the year honors. Four starters who led the surge return. Guard Brandon Freeman heads up what likely will be an all-senior starting lineup. Freeman and 6-6 Richard Hardman provide an inside-out punch, but Hardman and new starter Darius Eason will have to become even bigger frontcourt factors with the departure of starter Jamal Holden. The Trojans' unsung hero is point guard Zack Graber, who far and away led the league in assist-to-turnover ratio (118 assists, 50 turnovers).

Coach: Steve Shields (17-12 overall, 1 year). Projected starters: G Zack Graber, 5-11/Sr. (4.1 apg, 76.8 FT%); G Brandon Freeman, 6-2/Sr. (13.5 ppg, 41.2 FG%, 82.6 FT%, 38.2 3P%); G/F Richard Hardman, 6-6/Sr. (6.3 rpg, 48.6 FG%, 81.0 FT%); G/F Josh Jacobs, 6-6/Sr. (54.3 FG%); F/C Darius Eason, 6-9/Sr. (4.6 rpg, 53.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (East Division).
Last NCAA appearance: 1989.

Site: Little Rock, Ark. Home court: Alltel Arena (18,000). Website: www.ualrtrojans.com

3. Arkansas State

Outlook: The Indians pretty much were a twoman show last season, with backcourt mates Dewarick Spencer and J.J. Montgomery ranking 1-2 in the league in scoring. Both made all-conference (Montgomery first team, Spencer second) for an Arkansas State squad that was only 7-7 in league play. Both also averaged more than five rebounds, primarily because the Tribe didn't have an inside presence after now-departed forward Kim Adams. Help is on the way. Coach Dickey Nutt thinks he has the inside scorer the Indians need in 6-8 forward Isaac Wells, who sat out his freshman season because of academics. Junior college guards Jerry Nichols, who averaged 21.7 points at Walters State last year, and Dereke Tipler also were nice additions. Both can play the point, which would free Spencer to spend more time on the wing. With Nichols, Arkansas State has a potential 6-4, 6-5 and 6-6 backcourt. If there are enough balls to go around, the Indians easily could contend for the East crown.

Coach: Dickey Nutt (134-124, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Dewarick Spencer, 6-4/Sr. (19.0 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 47.8 FG%, 79.8 FT%, 45.7 3P%); G J.J. Montgomery, 6-5/Sr. (17.9 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 41.9 FG%, 77.1 FT%); G Dereke Tipler, 5-10/Jr. (JC transfer); F Isaac Wells, 6-8/So. (redshirt); F Kitus Witherspoon, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1998 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Jonesboro, Ark.

Home court: Convocation Center (10,563). Website: www.asuindians.com

4. Western Kentucky

Outlook: The Hilltoppers lost three of their last four games against league opponents, including a humbling 14-point loss at home to lower-seeded Middle Tennessee in the opening game of the conference tournament. The late swoon left a bad taste, and it doesn't help that second-year coach Darrin Horn has to rebuild without conference player of the year Mike Wells. He starts with a solid backcourt that includes budding star Anthony Winchester and much-improved point guard Antonio Haynes. Winchester showed flashes, including a 40-point night against Louisiana-Lafayette, and Haynes finished second in the conference in assists. But after that pair, Western Kentucky has little experience, with only backup quard Danny Rumph seeing extensive action. The Hilltoppers, though, will have Tennessee transfer Elgrace Wilborn and four freshmen who figure to get a quick baptism.

Coach: Darrin Horn (15-13 overall, 1 year). Projected starters: G Antonio Haynes, 6-0/Sr. (11.9 ppg, 4.2 apg, 40.5 FG%, 40.0 3P%); G Danny Rumph, 6-2/Jr. (41.2 FG%); G/F Anthony Winchester, 6-4/Jr. (14.1 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 42.1 FG%, 87.8 FT%, 36.7 3P%); F Elgrace Wilborn, 6-8/Jr. (transfer/Tennessee); C Josh Higgins, 7-0/So. (60.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003 (East Division). Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Bowling Green, Ky.

Home court: E.A. Diddle Arena (7,326). Website: www.wkusports.com

5. Florida International

Outlook: Sergio Rouco faces a big rebuilding job, but he's used to that. The first-year coach helped turn UTEP around as an assistant last year and faces a similar challenge with an FIU squad that was 5-22 and had only three wins over Division I foes. Not much went right for the Panthers last year, especially after swingman Junior Matias developed back problems and was lost after only six games. The athletic Matias had 20 points and 11 rebounds against crosstown

rival Miami in his last game and should return as an anchor in the backcourt. Strongman Byron Burnett is capable in the middle defensively, but what FIU needs is scoring help after averaging only 48.8 points in conference games last year. More improvement from Raphael daSilva should help—he averaged 12.3 in the Panthers' final 10 games—but the biggest boost might come from junior college transfer Ivan Almonte, one of six new faces on the roster.

Coach: Sergio Rouco (1st year).

Projected starters: G Junior Matias, 6-2/Sr. (14.8 ppg, 6.5 rpg, 41.0 FG%); G Alan Guyton, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); F Raphael daSilva, 6-6/So. (44.2 FG%); F Ivan Almonte, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer); C Byron Burnett, 6-8/Sr. (4.9 rpg, 44.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1995 (TAAC East). Last NCAA appearance: 1995.

Site: Miami.

Home court: Golden Panther Arena (5,000). Website: www.fiusports.com

West Division

1. Louisiana-Lafayette

Outlook: Instead of celebrating the league's regular-season and tournament titles, the Ragin' Cajuns suffered through a turmoil-filled offseason. Jessie Evans left to coach San Francisco, and first replacement Glynn Cyprien was terminated for falsifying his resume. Longtime assistant Robert Lee inherits a program that has many of the building blocks remaining from last year's success. The Cajuns might not be as deep as last year's 20-9 team, but their starting lineup still will be potent. Guards Orien Greene and Dwayne Mitchell and forward Brian Hamilton became forces in their first seasons, despite playing with a senior-laden club. Chris Cameron, a 6-11 center, should continue his improvement in the middle, and now-eligible East Tennessee State transfer Tiras Wade should provide shooting touch and another athletic presence. The Cajuns are the only team in the league that could lose three double-digit scorers and still remain a contender.

Coach: Robert Lee (1st year).

Projected starters: G Orien Greene, 6-4/Sr. (10.4 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 45.3 FG%); G Dwayne Mitchell, 6-4/Jr. (4.3 rpg, 3.2 apg); G/F Tiras Wade, 6-6/Jr. (transfer/East Tennessee State); F Brian Hamilton, 6-6/Sr. (11.4 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 61.0 FG%); C Chris Cameron, 6-11/Sr. (49.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Lafayette, La.

Home court: Cajundome (11,550). Website: www.ragincajuns.com

2. New Orleans

Outlook: The Privateers might have been the league's most improved team in the last third of 2003-04, winning seven of nine before falling to Louisiana-Lafayette in the league tournament finals. That and coach Monte Towe's new five-year contract are the good news. Now, the bad news: Six seniors are gone, and two other regularsstarter Victor Brown and long-range gunner Billy McDade-are academically ineligible. The departures put a big load on the narrow shoulders of Bo McCalebb, the league's top freshman and conference tournament's outstanding player despite his team's loss in the finals. McCalebb can score from the point, but finding another consistent outside threat will be a key-and crosstown transfer Chad Barnes (Loyola, New Orleans) just might be

the answer. The Privateers should be a better rebounding team with Nathaniel Parker and Ben Elias both returning. But Towe needs some new faces to step forward in a hurry, and with only nine roster players, New Orleans is a team that can't afford injuries.

Coach: Monte Towe (47-42, 3 years). Projected starters: G Bo McCalebb, 6-0/So. (13.1 ppg, 44.1 FG%); G Chad Barnes, 6-3/Jr. (transfer/Loyola, New Orleans); G Jamie McNeilly, 6-3/So. (JC transfer); F Nathaniel Parker, 6-8/Jr. (5.1 rpg, 60.2 FG%); C Ben Elias, 6-10/So. (4.0 rpg, 46.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1997 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: New Orleans.

Home court: Lakefront Arena (8.933). Website: www.unoprivateers.com

3. North Texas

Outlook: It took a few games for Leonard Hopkins to find his groove after he missed most of the 2002-03 season with a foot injury, but once he did, he became a force. Hopkins led North Texas in scoring in 11 of his last 17 games last year and averaged 17.5 points in league play. Hopkins again excel for a Mean Green team that boasts four starters with extensive experience. The athletic Hopkins will pair in the backcourt with Calvin Watson, who rallied from early season foot problems to give North Texas one of the league's best shooting guard tandems. Junior college transfer Isaac Hines should add even more strength on the perimeter and at the point. The question is inside. Michael Jones and Ron Harris came off of the bench last year and averaged more than 10 minutes per game, but somebody has to crash the boards.

Coach: Johnny Jones (35-50, 3 years; 50-66 overall, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Leonard Hopkins. 6-3/Sr. (14.0 ppg, 81.9 FT%); G Calvin Watson, 6-5/So. (41.7 FG%, 41.0 3P%); G Isaac Hines, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); F Michael Jones, 6-7/Sr.; C Justin Barnett, 6-10/Jr. (43.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1988 (Southland). Last NCAA appearance: 1988.

Site: Denton, Texas.

Home court: The Super Pit (10,032). Website: www.meangreensports.com

4. South Alabama

Outlook: Jaguar fans will need to buy a program this season; third-year coach John Pelphrey likely will have five new faces among his top eight players. Only consistent Richard Law and a point tandem of Shane Spencer and Carlos Smith return from a team that lost seven straight in the middle of the league race and had to win its last three games to qualify for the conference tournament. But the newcomer cast isn't exactly void of experience. Guards Jeffrey Collins and Stephen Cowherd are talented transfers from UAB and Mississippi State, respectively. Collins should be a difference-maker if fully recovered from a 2003 knee injury. South Alabama will add a proven scorer in junior college guard Mario Jointer, giving the team great depth in its backcourt. The interior is another story, with freshman Daniel Northern or 6-10 JC transfer Jacque Pate forced to carry the inside load. If either can hold his own, the Jags will supply plenty of perimeter firepower.

Coach: John Pelphrey (26-40, 2 years). Projected starters: G Stephen Cowherd, 6-1/So. (transfer/Mississippi State); G Mario Jointer, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); G Jeffrey Collins, 6-4/Jr. (transfer/UAB); F Brandon Gordon, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); C Jacque Pate, 6-10/Jr. (JC transfer). Last regular-season title: 2001 (West Division). Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Mobile, Ala.

Home court: Mitchell Center (10,000). Website: www.usajaguars.com

Denver

Outlook: Back-to-back winning seasons have coach Terry Carroll optimistic, and he knows he can count on two things for certain this year: His team will be experienced, and Erik Benzel will be a marked man. Benzel's long-range marksmanship made Denver dangerous last season, when he converted 42.2 percent of his 3-point shots and earned a No. 5 national ranking in Division I for 3-pointers made per game. He and fellow returnee Rodney Billups-younger brother of NBA Finals MVP Chauncey Billups—are a solid tandem. Billups led the Pioneers in steals and assists last year. All three frontcourt players have departed. including the under-appreciated Brett Starkey, but their three backups all played extensively and figure to slide into starting roles. One member of that trio, hometown product Yemi Nicholson, could be poised for a big season after leading Denver in blocked shots. Depth, though, is a huge question. Coach: Terry Carroll (39-48, 3 years). Projected starters: G Erik Benzel, 6-1/Sr. (14.4 ppg, 42.8 FG%, 76.9 FT%, 42.2 3P%); G Rodney Billups, 5-10/Sr. (10.4 ppg, 5.0 apg, 42.5 FG%); F Antonio Porch, 6-6/So.; F Terrence Gordon,

6-9/Jr.; C Yemi Nicholson, 6-10/Jr. (4.3 rpg. 50.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Home court: Magness Arena (7,200). Website: www.denverpioneers.com

6. New Mexico State

Outlook: Falling from 20-9 two years ago to 13-14 last season wasn't what coach Lou Henson had in mind, especially since returning league player of the year James Moore was primed for a stellar senior season. But injuries cut down both Moore's and New Mexico State's hopes and left them on the outside looking in for the league tournament. But Henson has been through worse, and he could become one of the NCAA's top five winningest career coaches with 12 wins this year. If that happens, it likely will be a gang of newcomers that makes it so; the Aggies return only five lettermen and no player who started more than 16 games. The only returnee among last year's top four scorers or rebounders is Duane John, who was the Aggies' most improved player and will be joined by returnees Allen Haynes and Byron Davis in the backcourt. Moore's departure leaves a gaping hole on the front line, where the raw Trevor Lawrence might be a key to the Aggies' turnaround. Coach: Lou Henson (272-126, 16 years; 762-386

overall, 41 years; 19-20 NCAA Tournament).

Projected starters: G Mike Mitchell, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); G Duane John, 6-6/Jr. (13.1 ppg, 5.2 rpg, 41.3 FG%); G Allen Haynes, 6-1/Sr. (41.0 FG%, 35.4 3P%); F Jeff Jones, 6-8/Sr.; C Trevor Lawrence, 6-11/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1999 (Big West). Last NCAA appearance: 1999.

Site: Las Cruces, N.M.

Home court: Pan American Center (13.071). Website: www.nmstatesports.com

Horizon

ROB DEMOVSKY, GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE

PREDICTIONS

1. Illinois-Chicago* 2. Wisconsin-Green Bay

6. Wright State 7. Youngstown State

3. Wisconsin-Milwaukee 8. Loyola

4. Detroit 9. Cleveland State 5. Butler

*NCAA tourney pick

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Ed McCants, UW-Milwaukee	6-3	195	Sr.
G	Brandon Morris, UW-Green Bay	16-1	180	Sr.
G	Javier Mendiburu, UW-Green Bay	16-5	200	Sr.
G	Cedrick Banks, Illinois-Chicago	6-2	170	Sr.
F	Joah Tucker, UW-Milwaukee	6-5	220	Jr.

SECOND TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class	
G	DaShaun Wood, Wright State	6-0	170	So.	
G	Matt Rohde, UW-Green Bay	6-2	190	Sr.	
G	Avery Sheets, Butler	6-0	170	Jr.	
F	Armond Williams, IIIChicago	6-5	200	Sr.	
(Ryvon Covile, Detroit	6-9	230	Jr.	

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Cedrick Banks, G, Illinois-Chicago

He was the preseason pick last year but lost out to Milwaukee's do-everything forward Dylan Page, who now is gone. But Banks might have to beat out another Milwaukee star, Ed McCants. Fans love Banks because he can score in bunches, uses his quickness to come off screens and never has seen a shot he doesn't like. Coaches like McCants because he has an all-around game and can play on or off the ball. He's the league's most feared player and its best NBA prospect.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Brandon Cotton, G, Detroit

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Wisconsin-Milwaukee	^ 13	3	20	11
Illinois-Chicago*	12	4	24	8
Wisconsin-Green Bay	11	5	17	11
Detroit	10	6	19	11
Wright State	10	6	14	14
Butler	8	8	16	14
Loyola (III.)	4	12	9	20
Youngstown State	4	12	8	20
Cleveland State	0	16	4	25

^ Lost to Boise State in NIT first round.

1. Illinois-Chicago

Outlook: Fifth-year seniors Armond Williams and Cedrick Banks give the Flames an inside-out punch that no other team in the league can match. The slimly built Banks moves without the ball and uses screens better than any perimeter player in the league. He averaged 18.4 points in an all-conference 2003-04 season. The 6-5, 220-pound Williams is a force under the basket. The big problem will be replacing point guard Martell Bailey, Banks' former Chicago high school teammate who averaged 7.8 assists last year. First crack at that job will go to Marcetteaus McGee, who backed up Bailey as a freshman. While the Flames are sure to rely heavily on Banks and Williams, they will get a boost from junior Justin Bowen. The 6-6 forward can score off the dribble and could emerge as one of the conference's most improved players. Banks and Williams will have the added incentive of leading the Flames to a third NCAA Tournament—and actually winning a game. Coach: Jimmy Collins (131-109, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Projected starters: G Marcetteaus McGee, 6-1/So; G Cedrick Banks, 6-2/Sr. (18.4 ppg, 44.0 FG%, 76.7 FT%, 43.1 3P%); F Justin Bowen, 6-6/Jr. (50.0 FG%); F Armond Williams, 6-5/Sr. (11.5 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 50.5 FG%); F Elliott Poole, 6-7/So. (4.4 rpg, 53.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Chicago.

Home court: UIC Pavilion (8,000). Website: www.uicflames.com

2. Wisconsin-Green Bay

Outlook: Boasting what might be the deepest backcourt in the league, the Phoenix appears poised to make a run at its first NCAA Tournament bid since 1996. The two-year improvement under coach Tod Kowalczyk from 10-20 to 17-11 ranked among the most dramatic turnarounds in the nation. That jump was made possible by the addition of junior college transfers Brandon Morris and Javier Mendiburu, who combined with veteran Matt Rohde in a talented backcourt. That senior trio again will form the nucleus of what should be a conference title contender, although Morris might not be available until December because of academic issues. Guard Ryan Werch, a transfer from Utah, also will be eligible after the first semester and should take some of the shooting pressure off Rohde. The maturation of forwards Tyler Koenig and Josh Lawrence, who were starters last year as freshmen, should help. So should the muscle that 6-9 freshman forward Tevah Morris will provide. Coach: Tod Kowalczyk (27-31, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Javier Mendiburu, 6-5/Sr. (4.5 rpg; 4.6 apg, 40.1 FG%, 78.8 FT%); G Brandon Morris, 6-1/Sr. (10.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 1.6 spg, 46.1 FG%, 75.3 FT%, 42.7 3P%); G Matt Rohde, 6-2/Sr.; F Josh Lawrence, 6-7/So. (41.4 FG%, 41.7 3P%); F Tyler Koenig, 6-8/So. (60.3 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1996. Site: Green Bay.

Home court: Resch Center (10,200). Website: www.uwgb.edu/athletics

3. Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Outlook: The Panthers have played in the conference tournament championship game the last



two seasons and are coming off their first regularseason league title. Replacing conference player of the year Dylan Page-who led the team in scoring, rebounding, blocked shots and minutes-won't be easy. Much of the workload will fall on athletic guard Ed McCants, who might shift from shooting guard to the point, and versatile forward Joah Tucker. Rutgers transfer Jason McCoy should help inside, and Chicago State transfer Derrick Wimmer is a 3-point threat. Look for coach Bruce Pearl, who has implemented an uptempo style that relies heavily on full-court pressure defense, to work junior college transfer Derrick Ford, a 6-10 center, into the rotation. Coach: Bruce Pearl (60-32, 3 years; 291-78 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Projected starters: G Ed McCants, 6-3/Sr.

(17.1 ppg, 48.2 FG%, 82.1 FT%, 42.8 3P%); G Chris Hill, 5-10/Jr. (2.8 apg); F Adrian Tigert, 6-7/Jr. (6.4 rpg, 58.8 FG%, 37.5 3P%); F Joah Tucker, 6-5/Jr. (12.5 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 49.5 FG%, 42.1 3P%); C Derrick Ford, 6-10/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Milwaukee.

Home court: U.S. Cellular Arena (11,000). Website: www.uwmpanthers.com

4. Detroit

Outlook: In Perry Watson's 11 seasons, Detroit has failed to post a winning record only once. The team loses four starters from last year's 19-11 team, but the roster has been reloaded with Detroit-area players. By using Watson's trademark half-court pressure defense, the Titans should be a factor. They have one of the league's best interior defenders in center Ryvon Covile and a streaky point guard in James Thues. The addition of 6-7 Michigan transfer Chuck Bailey and Michigan State transfer Brandon Cotton (eligible after the first semester) should offset the loss of leading scorer Elijah Warren. Cotton, a former McDonald's All-American, should be a nice fit at point guard, moving Thues to shooting guard.

Coach: Perry Watson (213-124, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 2-2).

Projected starters: G Ben Green, 6-4/Jr. (75.0 FT%); G James Thues, 5-10/Sr. (3.6 apg, 1.9 spg, 40.6 FG%, 35.6 3P%); F Chuck Bailey, 6-7/Jr. (transfer/Michigan); F Torvoris Baker, 6-7/Jr. (4.8 rpg, 52.9 FG%); C Ryvon Covile 6-9/Jr. (5.0 rpg, 1.3 bpg, 63.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 1999. Site: Detroit.

Home court: Calihan Hall (8,295). Website: www.detroittitans.com

Butler

Outlook: Once the class of the league, Butler slipped to sixth last season and will struggle to gain ground against a stronger field. But the Bulldogs should be better despite losing senior forwards Mike Monserez and Duane Lightfoot. The backcourt combination of Bruce Horan and Avery Sheets played much better over the second half and helped Butler finish 16-14 after a 4-9 start. Coach Todd Lickliter needs to find creative ways to use 7-foot, 240-pound Jamie Smalligan, who is a legitimate 3-point threat. Frontcourt help will come from sophomores Nick Brooks, Brian Ligon and Brandon Crone and Clemson transfer Julian Betko. Look for freshman guard A.J. Graves also to make an immediate impact. The Bulldogs will stick with the halfcourt, ball-control style that helps them rank annually among the conference's stingiest defenses.

Coach: Todd Lickliter (69-26, 3 years; NCAA Tournament 2-1).

Projected starters: G Bruce Horan, 6-3/Jr. (10.6 ppg, 83.3 FT%, 39.7 3P%); G Avery Sheets, 6-0/Jr. (11.0 ppg, 43.6 FG%, 88.1 FT%, 36.6 3P%); F Nick Brooks, 6-5/So. (35.1 3P%); F/C Brian Ligon, 6-7/So. (43.5 FG%); C Jamie Smalligan, 7-0/So. (35.8 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Indianapolis.

Home court: Hinkle Fieldhouse (11,043). Website: www.butlersports.com

6. Wright State

Outlook: Paul Biancardi, who earned conference coach of the year honors in his first season with the Raiders, is bracing for the fallout from an ongoing NCAA investigation at Ohio State. The former Buckeyes assistant was accused of being part of the NCAA violations that ultimately led to Jim O'Brien's dismissal, and the result could determine his future at Wright State. With such adversity clouding the season, plus the loss of two all-conference players (Seth Doliboa and Vernard Hollins), Biancardi will turn to his strong sophomore class. The leader is point guard DaShaun Wood, who might be the quickest player in the league and has a good outside shot. Drew Burleson gives the Raiders a strong inside presence, and Zakee Boyd is dangerous from the wing. Look for Ohio State transfer Zach Williams and freshman Everett Spencer to make immedi-

Coach: Paul Biancardi (14-14, 1 year). Projected starters: G DaShaun Wood, 6-0/So. (4.3 rpg, 3.0 apg, 42.0 FG%, 77.8 FT%, 36.8 3P%); G Everett Spencer, 6-6/Fr.; F Zakee Boyd, 6-5/So. (38.9 3P%); F Zach Williams, 6-7/Sr. (transfer/Ohio State); F Drew Burleson, 6-7/So. (4.2 rpg, 62.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1993.

Site: Dayton, Ohio.

Home court: Ervin J. Nutter Center (11,035). Website: www.wsuraiders.com

7. Youngstown State

Outlook: This is a make-or-break season for coach John Robic, who is entering the final year of his contract and has not produced a winning season since 2001. Complicating matters is the loss of guard Doug Underwood, who quit the

team after last year's 8-20 season. The key could be the improvement of bruising big man Khari McQueen and the three-guard rotation of Quin Humphrey, Mike Woodard and Jon Mends, At 290 pounds, McQueen is a tough matchup, especially in a league that lacks quality big men. The guards all handle the ball well but lack shooting range. Robic also will look for help from three strong junior college transfers-6-11 center Mike Adams and guards Zach Silverman and Domonique Crawford.

Coach: John Robic (53-90, 5 years). Projected starters: G Quin Humphrey, 6-2/So. (75.8 FT%); G Mike Woodard, 5-11/So. (42.5 FG%); G Zach Silverman, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); F Khari McQueen, 6-5/Sr. (53.6 FG%); C Mike Adams, 6-11/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Youngstown, Ohio.

Home court: Beeghly Center (6,500). Website: www.ysu.edu/sports

8. Lovola

Outlook: The Ramblers fired Larry Farmer, the former star player and coach at UCLA, and replaced him with Jim Whitesell, a Division II coach from Chicago-based Lewis University. Whitesell's move across town could help the Ramblers catch up to Illinois-Chicago in the local recruiting game. But that won't happen immediately. He faces his first season without a true point guard and minimal talent to build around. The top returnee is Blake Schilb, a versatile 6-7 swingman who can play almost any position and is the team's best outside shooter.

Coach: Jim Whitesell (1st year).

Projected starters: G DaJuan Gouard, 6-2/Sr. (40.6 FG%); G Majak Kou, 6-5/So.; F Blake Schilb, 6-7/So. (4.4 rpg, 46.3 FG%); F Anthony Smith, 6-9/Sr. (40.3 FG%); C Tyrelle Blair, 6-11/So. (44.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1985. Last NCAA appearance: 1985.

Site: Chicago.

Home court: Joseph J. Gentile Center (5,200). Website: www.loyolaramblers.com

9. Cleveland State

Outlook: Mike Garland, who was hired to revitalize a program that crashed under Rollie Massimino, watched helplessly as his injury-plagued Vikings struggled through a winless conference season in 2003-04. Their 4-25 overall record included a season-closing 23-game losing streak. Logic suggests things can only get better, but the Vikings still may not be good enough to climb out of the basement. A lot will be depend on how point guard Walt Chavis rebounds from a broken hand, how Bowling Green transfer Raheem Moss fits in and how talented Modibo Niakate plays after missing last season for personal reasons.

Coach: Mike Garland (4-25, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Walt Chavis, 5-11/Sr. (3.7 apg, 78.8 FT%); G Victor Morris, 6-0/So. (41.0 FG%, 78.1 FT%); G Raheem Moss, 6-4/So. (transfer/Bowling Green); F Omari Westley, 6-7/Sr. (14.8 ppg, 8.6 rpg, 48.0 FG%); F Patrick Tatham, 6-7/So. (4.7 rpg).

Last regular-season title: 1993 (Mid-Continent).

Last NCAA appearance: 1986. Site: Cleveland.

Home court: Henry J. Goodman Arena (13,610), Website: www.csuvikings.com

Ohio Valley Rank 20

By LUCIANA CHAVEZ, NEWS AND OBSERVER (RALEIGH, N.C.)

PREDICTIONS

1. Austin Peay*	7. Tennessee-Martin
2. Murray State	8. Samford
3. Tennessee State	9. Morehead State
4. Eastern Kentucky	10. SE Missouri State
5. Tennessee Tech	11. Eastern Illinois
6. Jacksonville State	*NCAA tourney pick

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM Pos. Name, school Ht. Wt. Class 6-3 205 Bruce Price, Tennessee State So. Matt Witt, Eastern Kentucky 6-0 180 Jr. Anthony Davis, Austin Peay 6-2 190 Sr. G/F Jared Newson, Tenn.-Martin 6-5 215 F/C Willie Jenkins, Tennessee Tech 6-6 210

SECOND TEAM

Po	s. Name, school H	t.	Wt.	Clas
G	Derek Winans, SE Missouri St. 6-	2	180	Sr.
G	Josh Gomes, Eastern Illinois 6-	3	180	Jr.
G	Walker D. Russell, Jacksonville St. 6-	0	170	Jr.
F	Michael Haney, Eastern Kentucky 6-	6	221	Sr.
F	Roshaun Bowens, Tennessee St. 6-	6	180	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Willie Jenkins, F/C, Tennessee Tech

Jenkins earned first-team all-conference and newcomer of the year honors last season. He ranked second in conference scoring, fifth in rebounding and in the top 10 in several other categories. At 6-6, the senior is the perfect-size scorer for the conference and the best returning scorer. Jenkins should be in good position to post impressive numbers while leading Tennessee Tech to a better finish. He will get the touches with Tech boasting an improved backcourt.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Keith Jenifer, G, Murray State

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Austin Peay*	16	0	22	10
Murray State^	14	2	28	6
Morehead State	10	6	16	13
E. Kentucky	8	8	14	15
Jacksonville St.	7	9	14	14
Tennessee Tech	7	9	13	15
Samford	7	9	12	16
Tennessee State	6	10	7	21
Tennessee-Martin	5	11	10	18
SE Missouri	4	12	11	16
Eastern Illinois	4	12	6	21

* Lost to George Mason in NIT first round. ^ Lost to Illinois in NCAA Atlanta Region first round. 1. Austin Peay

Outlook: Coach Dave Loos prides himself on defense, and although he lost four starters from last year's team that went 16-0 in regular-season OVC play, this squad might be just as good without the ball. Despite the personnel losses, Austin Peay still is relatively experienced. All four new starters are juniors or seniors, and three averaged at least 10 minutes per game last season, Anthony Davis, the only returning starter, might have been the team's best player over the final month. He can become a go-to scorer. Levi Carmichael steps into the point guard opening with Maurice Hampton and freshman Todd Babington providing longrange shooting. Zac Schlader and Eric Young will handle interior duties with 7-0 freshman center Tomas Janusauskas, the league's tallest player, offering backup help. Look for talented sophomore forward Fernandez Lockett to be the sixth man. Coach: Dave Loos (220-191, 14 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Levi Carmichael, 6-0/Sr. (88.0 FT%); G Maurice Hampton, 6-2/Jr. (42.2 FG%, 85.7 FT%); G/F Anthony Davis, 6-2/Sr. (12.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 77.5 FT%); F/C Eric Young, 6-6/Sr. (50.0 FG%); F/C Zac Schlader 6-9/Jr. (44.1 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Clarksville, Tenn.

Home court: Dave Aaron Arena (9,000). Website: www.apsu.edu/letsgopeay

2. Murray State

Outlook: Murray State always contends, but the loss of forward Kelvin Brown, the team's best scorer and rebounder, will hurt. He was suspended indefinitely last spring then quit. That puts a heavier burden on senior guard Adam Chiles and sophomore forward Shawn Witherspoon to pick up the slack. One thing is certain: The Racers will have a completely new starting five. Coach Mick Cronin, who welcomes nine newcomers, will find immediate roles for two transfers-former Virginia guard Keith Jenifer and sophomore guard Trey Pearson, who played one season at Mississippi. Both will need to hit the ground running. Two junior college transfers-6-6 Issian Redding and 6-8 Reggie Jackson-and redshirt junior center Pearson Griffith also should make significant impacts. Coach: Mick Cronin (28-6, 1 year; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Keith Jenifer, 6-2/Jr. (transfer/Virginia); G Trey Pearson, 6-2/So. (transfer/Mississippi); F Issian Redding, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer); F Reggie Jackson, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer); C Pearson Griffith, 6-10/Jr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Murray, Ky.

Home court: Regional Special Events Center (8,600)

Website: www.goracers.com

3. Tennessee State

Outlook: Tennessee State could be this year's sleeper in coach Cy Alexander's second season. The Tigers will show big improvement, thanks to three transfers who played in major conferences-Rod Flowers (Cincinnati), Eric King (St. John's) and Wayne Arnold (Georgia). All three should start. Flowers and King will team with returning starter Roshaun Bowens to give the Tigers a much stronger frontcourt. By shifting to small forward, Bowens won't have to play against bigger power forwards and should be more effective on both

ends of the court. Sophomore Bruce Price, a 17.6-point scorer who also averaged 4.0 assists, returns to the point, but returning starter Jeremy Jackson will be forced into a sixth-man role. The Tigers will be tested by a tough nonconference schedule.

Coach: Cy Alexander (7-21, 1 year; 284-223 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 0-5).

Projected starters: G Bruce Price, 6-3/So. (17.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 4.0 apg, 73.5 FT%); G Wayne Arnold 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F Roshaun Bowens 6-6/Sr. (16.9 ppg, 6.7 rpg, 50.0 FG%, 53.8 3P%); F Eric King, 6-6/Jr. (transfer/St. John's); C Rod Flowers, 6-8/Sr. (transfer/Cincinnati).

Last regular-season title: 1995 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1994.

Site: Nashville.

Home court: Gentry Center (10,500). Website: www.tsutigers.com

4. Eastern Kentucky

Outlook: Travis Ford, a former Kentucky guard and Rick Pitino assistant, would rather set up in the half court and run plays. Maybe that's because his Colonels have not been as athletic as he would like. But that might change as Ford brings in five new bodies—three of whom are expected to start or at least contribute right away. JC transfer Alonzo Hird, 6-9, brings much-needed size to the post, and at 6-6, 220, freshman Ryan Wiersma will provide bulk inside. Both are welcome sights for Matt Witt and Michael Haney, who are the team's two best returning 3-point shooters. Witt will get long-range help from Zach Ingles.

Coach: Travis Ford (39-71, 4 years). Projected starters: G Matt Witt, 6-0/Jr. (15.6 ppg, 5.5 apg, 42.1 FG%, 39.8 3P%); G Zach Ingles, 6-2/Jr. (JC transfer); G Ben Rushing, 5-11/Sr. (40.0 FG%, 76.3 FT%); F Michael Haney, 6-6/Sr. (11.4 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 53.3 FG%, 76.3 FT%); C Alonzo Hird, 6-9/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1979. Last NCAA appearance: 1979.

Site: Richmond, Ky.

Home court: McBrayer Arena (6,500). Website: www.ekusports.com

5. Tennessee Tech

Outlook: The Golden Eagles are looking to move into the conference's upper tier with the return of preseason player of the year Willie Jenkins and transfer guard Derek Stribling. Tech also might start another newcomer, redshirt freshman Isaiah Mills, at forward along with Jenkins and junior Milone Clark. The Eagles will have good frontcourt depth with freshman Ra'Shun Bryant, who originally signed with Colorado. Stribling and Keyon Boyd should be a potent backcourt mix.

Coach: Mike Sutton (33-27, 2 years). Projected starters: G Milone Clark, 6-4/Jr. (10.9 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 50.0 FG%, 84.2 FT%, 44.1 3P%); G Keyon Boyd, 6-3/Jr. (4.1 rpg, 46.3 FG%, 78.1 FT%); G/F Derek Stribling, 6-6/Sr. (transfer/Tennessee); F/C Willie Jenkins, 6-6/Sr. (19.5 ppg, 7.2 rpg, 47.4 FG%, 71.2 FT%, 36.8 3P%); C Isaiah Mills, 6-9/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 1963. Site: Cookeville, Tenn.

Home court: Eblen Center (10,152).
Website: www.tntech.edu/athletics

6. Jacksonville State

Outlook: The Gamecocks, who lost four starters, welcome two freshmen and five junior college transfers. Inexperience will make it difficult for Jacksonville State to move up in the standings.

Point guard Walker D. Russell, the only returning starter, will have to shoulder the offensive burden. He led the conference in assists last season and averaged double figures in points. He must duplicate that effort. Transfer forwards John Haynesworth and Carlos Lumpkin should add a little pep to coach Mike LaPlante's uptempo scheme, as should JC guards B.J. Spencer and Rod Venner. Coach: Mike LaPlante (56-59, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Walker D. Russell, 6-0/Jr. (12.7 ppg, 6.5 apg, 47.4 FG%, 79.2 FT%); G B.J. Spencer, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); G Rod Venner, 6-2/Jr. (JC transfer); F Abdou Diame, 6-9/Sr. (49.0 FG%); F/C John Haynesworth, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Jacksonville, Ala.

Home court: Pete Mathews Coliseum (5,500). **Website:** www.jsugamecocksports.com

7. Tennessee-Martin

Outlook: Tennessee-Martin's fortunes depend on a bunch of "ifs". If Earl Bullock, a medical redshirt (knee), is healthy enough to return to the form that earned him newcomer of the year honors two seasons ago. If transfer point guard Marcus Ford is as steady with the ball as reported. If J.C. Howe has improved despite taking last season off. If Jared Newson can score with consistency. The talent is there, and all five starters return, but Newson and Bullock have to score and play consistently for the Skyhawks to move up.

Coach: Bret Campbell (59-82, 5 years). Projected starters: G Marcus Ford, 6-0/Jr. (transfer/Southeastern Illinois College); G Earl Bullock, 6-1/Sr. (medical redshirt); G/F Jared Newson, 6-5/Jr. (14.4 ppg, 5.9 rpg, 45.8 FG%); F J.C. Howe, 6-6/Sr.; C Cleve Woodfork, 6-9/Jr. (5.8 rpg, 51.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Martin, Tenn.

Home court: Skyhawk Arena (7,000). Website: www.utmsports.com

8. Samford

Outlook: The Bulldogs might not be as efficient running Jimmy Tillette's Princeton offense with only two starters returning—J. Robert Merritt-and Jerry Smith. Merritt is the team's best shooter, and he can take the ball inside when necessary. Smith has to become a better scorer and carry a larger load. Merritt's younger brother, Joe Ross Merritt, will be asked to add outside pop. The big question is at center, where Jon Mills and Travis Peterson will battle for minutes. Tillette signed three high school players, but none is likely to contribute immediately. Coach: Jimmy Tillette (114-89, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Jerry Smith, 6-1/So. (4.0 rpg, 3.4 apg, 48.6 FG%, 35.8 3P%); G Randall Gulina, 6-1/So. (40.4 FG%, 37.5 3P%); F J. Robert Merritt, 6-6/Jr. (11.1 ppg, 44.2 FG%, 78.7 FT%, 40.0 3P%); F Bryan Boerjan, 6-7/Jr. (50.0 FG%, 37.5 3P%); C Jon Mills, 6-6/Sr. (55.3 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2000 (Atlantic Sun). Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Birmingham, Ala.

Home court: Seibert Hall (4,000). Website: www.samfordsports.com

9. Morehead State

Outlook: Morehead State has the unenviable task of replacing Ricky Minard, the 48th player taken in the 2004 NBA draft. It's a big loss and probably the most important reason the Eagles

are expected to take a tumble in the standings. Forward Chad McKnight will get some help drawing defenses in the frontcourt with the addition of 6-10 redshirt freshman Kyle McDonald. Junior college transfer Chris Holmes is the likeliest candidate to add scoring at either shooting guard or small forward. Also returning after knee surgery is guard/forward Kyle Hankins.

Coach: Kyle Macy (91-105, 7 years).

Projected starters: G Quinton Smith, 5-11/So. (3.6 apg); G Ramon Kelly, 6-4/Sr. (51.6 FG%); G Josh Reed, 6-2/So.; F Chad McKnight, 6-7/Sr. (10.6 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 56.0 FG%); F Cory Burns, 6-8/Jr. (40.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1984. Last NCAA appearance: 1984.

Site: Morehead, Ky.

Home court: Johnson Arena (6,500). Website: www.msueagles.com

10. Southeast Missouri State

Outlook: Six new players arrive with three new assistant coaches. The new cast will be learning a new offense and trying to reclaim the verve Gary Garner's teams usually show on defense. After a year absence, Garner will go back to the triangle offense. Unlike last season, he has several frontcourt players, including junior college center Waylon Francis, to make it work. Point guard Ryan Belcher, a solid defender and ballhandler, joins steady Derek Winans, in the backcourt. To kickstart the transition, the squad will get an extra 10 days of practice when it visits Canada in September.

Coach: Gary Garner (104-98, 7 years; 351-263 overall, 21 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Ryan Belcher, 6-2/Jr. (JC transfer); G Derek Winans, 6-2/Sr. (14.5 ppg, 47.0 FG%, 80.4 FT%, 41.7 3P%); F Dainmon Gonner, 6-6/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 41.2 FG%, 38.7 3P%); F Reggie Golson, 6-7/Sr. (52.4 FG%); C Waylon Francis, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 2000 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2000. Site: Cape Girardeau, Mo. Home court: Show Me Center (7,000).

Website: www.gosoutheast.com

11. Eastern Illinois

Outlook: Trying to climb from the bottom of the OVC pack will mean relying on the old, junior guard Josh Gomes, and the new, freshmen Jake Byrne and George Tandy. During a tour to Costa Rica this offseason, coach Rick Samuels saw his frontcourt options, Aaron Patterson and Andy Gobczynski, maturing. Byrne and Tandy will help in the frontcourt as well, and they'll add size—both are 6-8. The Panthers' halfcourt offense relies on Gomes hitting from the outside. They lost their other 3-point threat when senior guard Derik Hollyfield was declared ineligible.

Coach: Rick Samuels (348-344, 24 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Josh Gomes, 6-3/Jr. (13.6 ppg, 47.9 FG%, 76.2 FT%); G Jake Sinclair, 6-2/Jr. (42.4 FG%, 88.9 FT%); G Emanuel Dildy, 6-1/Sr. (41.2 FG%, 83.7 FT%, 38.8 3P%); F Aaron Patterson, 6-6/Sr. (4.6 rpg, 59.0 FG%); F Andy Gobczynski, 6-7/Sr. (47.6 FG%, 81.8 FT%). Last regular-season title: 1991(Mid-

Continent).

Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Charleston, III.

Home court: Lantz Arena (5,300). Website: www.eiu.edu/panthers

Atlantic Sun

Rank 21

By Marcus Nelson, The Palm Beach Post

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	E.J. Gordon, Stetson	6-4	210	Jr.
G	Brian Fisk, Lipscomb	6-2	195	So.
G/F	Kevin Thomas, Georgia State	6-4	200	Sr.
F	Mike Bell, Florida Atlantic	6-9	210	Sr.
F	H. Quaintance, Jacksonville	6-7	200	So

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Mike Bell, F, Florida Atlantic

He made an instant impact last season and will do more this year after Earnest Crumbley's departure. Bell started at N.C. State but battled knee injuries. After a stop at junior college, he arrived in the Atlantic Sun and led the league in rebounding (9.7 rpg), was third in scoring (18.0 ppg) and was second in blocks (2.1 bpg). He has added about 25 pounds and will need it as he becomes the focus of defenses.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Travis DeGroot, G, Georgia State

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Troy&	18	2	24	7
Central Florida*	17	3	25	6
Belmont^	15	5	21	9
Georgia State	14	6	20	9
Stetson	10	10	12	15
Mercer	9	11	12	18
Jacksonville	8	12	13	15
Florida Atlantic	6	14	9	19
Gardner-Webb	6	14	9	20
Lipscomb	4	16	7	21
Campbell	3	17	3	24

& Lost to Niagara in NIT opening round

* Lost to Pittsburgh in NCAA East Rutherford Region first

^ Lost to Austin Peay in NIT opening round.

1. Stetson*

Outlook: The conference is so wide open that Stetson, which stumbled to a 12-15 record last year, is a leading contender for the title. The Hatters return four starters and get some serious help from outside. Will Holloman, a transfer from Richmond, will allow Anthony Register to play a more natural wing position instead of the point. Register, leading scorer E.J. Gordon and Holloman give Stetson three scoring options. Coach Derek Waugh also has interior options in Borislav Djordjic, Mark Stiles and JC transfer Ben Bridges

as well as 6-5 Tulane transfer Karl Hollingsworth. Coach: Derek Waugh (41-59, 4 years)

Projected starters: G Will Holloman, 6-1/So. (transfer/Richmond); G Anthony Register, 6-2/Jr. (14.4 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 42.8 FG%, 79.1 FT%, 40.0 3P%); G E.J. Gordon, 6-4/Jr. (16.8 ppg, 7.1 rpg); F/C Mark Stiles, 6-8/Sr. (77.3 FT%); F/C Borislav Djordjic, 6-8/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 48.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: DeLand, Fla.

Home court: Edmunds Center (5,000). Website: www.stetson.edu/athletics

2. Georgia State

Outlook: Seven veterans are back, including wing Kevin Thomas-one of the league's most complete players. But the Panthers, traditionally one of the conference's most fundamentally sound teams, will be a contender because of an elite class of newcomers. Center Nate Williams, the team's leading scorer and rebounder, is gone. But 6-9 freshman Deven Dickerson should step right in. Add junior college guards Travis DeGroot and Malcom Manier, as well as forward Marcus Brown, and the Panthers have a potentially solid starting lineup.

Coach: Michael Perry (30-18 overall, 2 years) Projected starters: G Travis DeGroot, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); G Malcom Manier, 6-2/Jr. (JC transfer); G/F Kevin Thomas, 6-4/Sr. (10.0 ppg, 41.4 FG%, 39.4 3P%); F Marcus Brown, 6-7/Sr. (52.1 FG%, 39.5 3P%); C Deven Dickerson, 6-9/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Atlanta.

Home court: GSU Sports Arena (5,000). Website: www.georgiastatesports.com

3. Central Florida

Outlook: After a trip to the NCAA Tournament, the Golden Knights must move forward without go-to scorer Dexter Lyons and center Roberto Morentin. Central Florida will rely on senior point Gary Johnson and fierce defender Marcus Avant. The Knights bolstered their interior, bringing in 6-8 JC forwards Marcus Johnson and Anthony Williams. Battling to join Gary Johnson in the backcourt are holdovers Kingsley Edwards, Troy Lindbeck and Josh Peppers, plus redshirt Marcus McGee.

Coach: Kirk Speraw (171-154, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Projected starters: G Gary Johnson, 6-2/Sr. (4.2 apg, 76.1 FT%); G Kingsley Edwards, 6-0/Sr.; F Anthony Williams, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer); F Marcus Avant, 6-7/Sr. (41.2 FG%); F Marcus Johnson, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Orlando.

Home court: UCF Arena (5,100). Website: www.ucfathletics.com

Outlook: Greg Davis, the league's player of the year, is gone. But opponents beware. Eddie Baker, a leader of the Trojans' NCAA Tournament team in 2002-03, is back after a redshirt season, and quard Jacob Hazouri, a starter who was injured last year, also returns. Coach Don Maestri will rebuild around Baker and Hazouri with JC transfers Bobby Dixon, Ransom Antoine and Leon Woodstock. Holdover guard Zavier Mathis and forward Ryan Heck also should contribute heavily. Coach: Don Maestri (385-244, 21 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Bobby Dixon, 5-10/Jr. (JC transfer); G Jacob Hazouri, 6-3/Jr. (redshirt);

G Zavier Mathis, 6-0/Sr. (42.5 FG%, 40.6 3P%); F Ransom Antoine, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F/C Eddie Baker, 6-7/Sr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Troy, Ala.

Home court: Trojan Arena (4,000). Website: www.troystate.com

5. Jacksonville

Outlook: The Dolphins have three starters returning. The top gun should be conference freshman of the year Haminn Quaintance. Two other top scorers return: point guard Aubrey Conerly and shooting guard David Lee, an all-conference candidate. Coach Hugh Durham also welcomes five junior college transfers, led by 6-4 guard Antonio Cool. Coach: Hugh Durham (90-106, 7 years: 617-416 overall, 36 years; NCAA Tournament 8-8) Projected starters: G Aubrey Conerly, 5-11/Jr. (3.7 apg, 77.6 FT%); G David Lee, 6-3/Sr. (14.0 ppg, 79.8 FT%); G Antonio Cool, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F

Haminn Quaintance, 6-7/So. (14.3 ppg, 8.8 rpg, 53.2 FG%); F Joey Robinson 6-6/So. (JC transfer). Last regular-season title: 1986 (Sun Belt). Last NCAA appearance: 1986.

Site: Jacksonville, Fla.

Home court: Swisher Gymnasium (1,500).

Website: www.judolphins.com

6. Belmont

Outlook: In their seventh season in Division I, the Bruins went 21-9 and made it to the NIT. But Belmont loses Adam Mark, the conference's leading scorer, and Steve Drabyn, the team's second-leader scorer. None of the newcomers is taller than 6-6, and 6-10 center Andrew Preston is raw. So Belmont, a post team for years, will lean on its guard play with returnees Brian Collins, Jese Snyder and Josh Goodwin and freshman Justin Hare. Coach: Rick Byrd (367-202, 18 years; 459-257

overall, 23 years).

Projected starters: G Brian Collins, 6-4/Jr (10.3 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 4.1 apg, 43.4 FG%); G Jese Snyder, 6-3/Sr. (41.9 FG%, 40.6 3P%); G Josh Goodwin, 6-2/So. (80.4 FT%, 38.7 3P%); F Adrian Jones, 6-5/So. (42.4 FG%); C Andrew Preston, 6-10/So.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Nashville

Home court: Curb Event Center (5,000). Website: www.belmont.edu/athletics

7. Florida Atlantic

Outlook: The Owls have a player of the year candidate in forward Mike Bell and a strong post presence in Robert Williams. But there are questions in the backcourt. Look for Kahleaf Watson to start at the point with Jimmy Bishop at shooting guard and Pierre Tucker on the wing. The team hopes freshman guard Tywain McTyer can make an impact. Coach: Sidney Green (44-104, 4 years; 93-164 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Kahleaf Watson, 6-2/Jr. (54.1 FG%); G Jimmy Bishop, 6-5/Sr. (41.3 FG%); F Mike Bell, 6-9/Sr. (18.0 ppg, 9.7 rpg, 46.1 FG%); F Pierre Tucker, 6-7/Sr. (44.6 FG%, 39.0 3P%); C Robert Williams, 6-8/Sr. (5.6 rpg, 49.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002. Site: Boca Raton, Fla.

Home court: FAU Gymnasium (5,000). Website: www.fausports.com

Outlook: After losing forwards Scott Emerson and Delmar Wilson, Mercer will move to a perimeter game featuring James Odoms. Coach Mark

Slonaker also is high on Damitrius Coleman, a JC transfer who could start at the point. The Bears will get good mileage out of guard Jacob Skogen and forwards Wesley Duke and Will Emerson.

Coach: Mark Slonaker (79-122, 7 years). Projected starters: G Damitrius Coleman, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); G James Odoms, 6-5/Sr.(11.7 ppg, 43.1 FG%, 48.8 3P%); G Jacob Skogen, 6-5/So.; F Wesley Duke, 6-5/Sr. (10.5 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 51.8 FG%); F Will Emerson, 6-10/Jr. (46.0 FG%, 42.9 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2003 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1985.

Site: Macon, Ga.

Home court: University Center (3,200). Website: www.mercerbears.com

9. Gardner-Webb

Outlook: The Bulldogs now are eligible to make the NCAA Tournament. The trick is getting there. A top-grade recruiting class will help. The best of the newcomers are JC transfers—Mike Jones and Tim Jennings. Both will step into a rotation that returns hot-shooting Brian Bender, Andre Manning, Simon Conn and Josh Chiles.

Coach: Rick Scruggs (118-119, 9 years at Gardner-Webb; 14-44, 2 years in Division I).

Projected starters: G Andre Manning, 6-0/Jr. (2.9 apg); G Tim Jennings, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Brian Bender, 6-6/Jr. (12.7 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 40.2 FG%, 37.5 3P%); F Mike Jones, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); C Simon Conn, 6-9/Jr. (62.2 FG%, 41.7 3P%).

Last NCAA appearance: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Boiling Springs, N.C.

Home court: Paul Porter Arena (5,500). Website: www.gwusports.com

10. Campbell

Outlook: Coach Robbie Laing's second season should be smoother with a team led by exciting point guard Anthony Atkinson and senior power forward Dominique Klein. Atkinson will distribute to guard Ruell Pringle, center Colin Hunt and forwards Klein and Diego Aguiar. JC forward Maurice Latham and freshman Jake Wohlfeil also should contribute. Coach: Robbie Laing (3-24, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Anthony Atkinson, 5-10/So. (11.0 ppg, 4.4 apg, 43.5 FG%, 81.0 FT%); G Ruell Pringle, 6-1/Fr.; F Diego Aguiar, 6-7/So. (52.6 FG%); F Dominique Klein, 6-6/Sr. (6.3 rpg, 42.8 FG%, 38.8 3P%); C Colin Hunt, 6-8/So.

Last regular-season title: 1992 (Big South). Last NCAA appearance: 1992.

Site: Buies Creek, N.C. Home court: Carter Gym (947). Website: www.gocamels.com

11. Lipscomb

Outlook: Lipscomb is becoming more competitive, and it returns its top two scorers, Brian Fisk and James Poindexter. Redshirt swingman Eddie Ard and JC center Shaun Durant are new attractions. Depth is provided by forwards Matt Jarboe and Stephan Bolt and center Charlie Jenney.

Coach: Scott Sanderson (21-63, 3 years). Projected starters: G Brian Fisk, 6-2/So. (11.5 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 41.6 FG%, 37.6 3P%); G James Poindexter, 6-0/Jr. (10.5 ppg, 75.5 FT%); F Cameron Robinson, 6-7/Jr. (80.0 FG%); G/F Eddie Ard, 6-5/Fr. (redshirt); C Shaun Durant, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Nashville.

Home court: Allen Arena (5,028). Website: www.lipscombsports.com

Big Sky

Rank 22

By Jim Burton, Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

EIDST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Kevin Criswell, Montana	6-2	185	Jr.
G	Kelly Golob, Northern Arizona	6-5	197	Jr.
F	Seamus Boxley, Portland St.	6-7	220	Sr.
F	Marc Axton, East. Washington	6-7	225	Sr.
F	Kamarr Davis, Montana	6-7	235	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Marc Axton, F, Eastern Washington

Axton is a familiar name on all-Big Sky lists. Last year, he averaged 12.4 points, 4.7 rebounds and 2.6 assists, working behind seniors Alvin Snow and Brendon Merritt as the Eagles advanced to their first NCAA Tournament appearance. Axton was one of three juniors on the 2003-04 all-Big Sky team. He seems destined to make the team again this season and join Snow in being named league MVP.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

David Patten, F, Weber State



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Eastern Washington*	11	3	17	13
Northern Arizona	7	7	15	14
Weber State	7	7	15	14
Sacramento State	7	7	13	15
Idaho State	7	7	13	18
Montana State	6	8	14	13
Montana	6	8	10	18
Portland State	5	9	11	16

* Lost to Oklahoma State in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

1. Eastern Washington*

Outlook: The Eagles earned their first regularseason championship, conference tournament title and visit to the NCAA Tournament last season. But the success cost them a coach. Ray Giacoletti replaced Rick Majerus at Utah, and EWU promoted assistant Mike Burns. Can Burns keep the Eagles flying high? EWU clearly was the best team in the conference last year, and despite losing guards Alvin Snow and Brendon Merritt, they still can compete. Forward Marc Axton and steady point guard Danny Pariseau are good starting points. Matt Nelson, a 6-8, 230-pound forward, got everyone's attention last year as a freshman and now is considered one of the conference's best big men. Guard Eric Henkel and forward Paul Butorac will have to fend off a group of talented freshmen. Coach: Mike Burns (1st year).

Projected starters: G Danny Pariseau, 5-11/Jr. (42.9 FG%, 80.0 FT%, 37.5 3P%); G Eric Henkel, 6-4/So.; F Marc Axton, 6-7/Sr. (12.9 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 48.4 FG%, 38.7 3P%); F Paul Butorac, 6-9/So. (58.5 FG%); F Matt Nelson, 6-8/So. (5.0 rpg, 57.1 FG%)

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Cheney, Wash. Home court: Reese Court (6,000). Website: www.goeags.com

2. Portland State

Outlook: Coach Heath Schroyer appears to have his Vikings poised to contend for a conference title. Seamus Boxley, a rugged 6-7 forward who posted 11 double-doubles last year, is one of the conference's top returning players. Guards Blake Walker and Will Funn and forward Antone Jarrell also are back to give the Vikings an inside-out scoring punch. Junior college transfers Jake Schroeder, Tyler Hollist and Josh Neeley add much-needed depth and outside shooting. With eight nonconference home games, four returning starters, a strong recruiting class and one of the league's best overall players, PSU could be heading for a big season.

Coach: Heath Schroyer (16-38 overall, 2 years). Projected starters: G Will Funn, 6-2/Sr. (4.0 apg, 40.7 FG%, 37.9 3P%); G Josh Neeley, 6-2/Jr. (JC transfer); F Antone Jarrell, 6-6/Sr. (46.9 FG%); F Seamus Boxley, 6-7/Sr. (14.8 ppg, 9.4 rpg, 1.2 bpg, 55.6 FG%); F Tyler Hollist, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Portland.

Home court: Stott Center (1,500). Website: www.goviks.com

3. Montana

Outlook: New coach Larry Krystkowiak, a former Montana player and assistant coach who replaces Pat Kennedy, has some decent talent at his disposal. He will start with all-conference forward Kamarr Davis,who averaged 14.1 points and 6.3 rebounds while earning the league's top newcomer honor. With Davis as a solid go-to option, Krystkowiak will look for former freshman of the year guard Kevin Criswell to bounce back from a so-so sophomore season. The Grizzlies will need to get strong play from freshman point guard Matt Martin, who will be handed the keys to the offense. Another big boost could come from highscoring junior college guard Virgil Matthews.

Coach: Larry Krystkowiak (1st year).

Projected starters: G Matt Martin, 6-0/Fr.; G Kevin Criswell, 6-2/Jr. (12.3 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 79.8 FT%); F Corey Easley, 6-8/Jr. (40.6 FG%); F Kamarr Davis, 6-7/Sr. (14.1 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 55.7 FG%, 79.0 FT%); C John Seyfert, 6-10/Jr. (5.4 rpg, 1.2 bpg, 52.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Missoula, Mont.

Home court: Dahlberg Arena (7,310). Website: www.montanagrizzlies.com

4. Weber State

Outlook: The Wildcats spent much of last season spinning their wheels, thanks to the inconsistent play of their point guards and injuries to forward Slobodan Ocokoljic. This year's Cats return 6-10 Lance Allred, one of the league's best centers. But with the departure of Ocokoljic, forward Nic Sparrow and guard John Hamilton, coach Joe Cravens will rework his rotation around three talented transfers: junior college guards Dale Parsons and Terrell Stovall and former Pepperdine forward David Patten. That trio could join a starting lineup that includes Allred and senior forward Troy Goodell. Point guard questions still linger, but the picture will brighten if Stovall and Parsons can become difference-makers, and the team will find itself near the top of the Big Sky standings. Coach: Joe Cravens (92-55, 5 years; 147-107 overall, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Dale Parsons, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); G Terrell Stovall, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Troy Goodell, 6-6/Sr. (81.3 FT%); F David Patten, 6-8/So. (transfer/Pepperdine); C Lance Allred, 6-10/Sr. (11.7 ppg, 6.0 rpg, 42.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Ogden, Utah.

Home court: Dee Events Center (12,000). Website: www.weber.edu/athletics

5. Northern Arizona

Outlook: The Lumberjacks were the surprise of the conference last season, quietly rising to the top half of the standings and eventually earning a No. 2 seed in the Big Sky tournament. But the loss of allconference forward Aaron Bond and 7-foot center Joakim Kjellbom could make their 15-14 record hard to match. The Lumberjacks should get plenty of production from their backcourt-junior Kelly Golob, a 42.5 percent 3-point shooter last season. and point man Kyle Feuerbach. Ruben Boykin is a rugged rebounder, and swingman Stephen Garnett is capable of stepping up his game. With the loss of Kjellbom, who left the program to turn pro in Europe, coach Mike Adras might look to sophomore 7-footer Paul Meynen to give him some help inside. Coach: Mike Adras (79-66, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Kyle Feuerbach, 6-1/Sr. (3.9 apg); G Kelly Golob, 6-5/Jr. (13.4 ppg, 42.0 FG%, 85.9 FT%, 42.5 3P%); F Stephen Garnett, 6-4/Sr. (51.2 FG%); F Ruben Boykin, 6-7/So. (42.9 FG%); C Paul Meynen, 7-0/So.

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Flagstaff, Ariz.

Home court: Walkup Skydome (7,000). Website: www.nauathletics.com

6. Idaho State

Outlook: The Bengals will have to replace point guard Marguis Poole and forward Scott Henry. But coach Doug Oliver does have a solid foundation. Senior Jeff Gardner will take over for Poole, and shooting guard David Schroeder, who sat out last season with a knee injury, should liven things up

on the perimeter. Schroeder is the real deal, a deadly outside shooter who can post big numbers. Gardner is a steady ballhandler who also can hit from the outside. The bulk of the inside work will be handled by seniors Nate Rede, Doug D'Amore and 6-10 Jesse Smith.

Coach: Doug Oliver (66-102, 6 years).

Projected starters: G Jeff Gardner, 6-2/Sr. (11.1 ppg, 3.4 apg); G David Schroeder, 6-2/So. (medical redshirt); G/F Doug D'Amore, 6-5/Sr. (42.0 FG%, 37.2 3P%); F Nate Rede, 6-7/Sr. (59.6 FG%); F/C Jesse Smith, 6-10/Sr. (4.5 rpg, 40.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1994 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1987.

Site: Pocatello, Idaho.

Home court: Reed Gymnasium (3,040). Website: www.isubengals.com

7. Montana State

Outlook: The Bobcats, who struggled during conference play last season, will replace four starters. including multi-talented point guard Jason Erickson. With guard Frank Brown as his only returning starter, coach Mick Durham signed seven recruits in an effort to rekindle the chemistry his teams possessed only a few seasons ago. Junior college transfer Marvin Moss, a 6-6 forward, is the best of the newcomers and should make an immediate impact. Two other JC transfers, 6-11 Al Beye and guard Branden Miller, also will help. Durham will look for bigger contributions from forward Nick Dissly, 7-foot center Matt Towsley and Carson Durr, an athletic 6-5 sophomore with big potential.

Coach: Mick Durham (217-184, 14 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1). Projected starters: G Frank Brown, 6-2/Jr. (4.2

rpg, 4.4 apg); G Branden Miller, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); F Nick Dissly, 6-5/So. (43.5 FG%); F Marvin Moss, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer); C Matt Towsley, 7-0/Sr. (4.2 rpg, 49.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2001. Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Bozeman, Mont.

Home court: Worthington Arena (7,250). Website: www.msubobcats.com

8. Sacramento State

Outlook: Jerome Jenkins will rebuild a team that struggled to a 13-15 record last season. Gone are leaders Joseth Dawson, Joel Jones and Brandon Guyton, and everything will focus around junior point guard DaShawn Freeman, the only returning starter. To be successful, the Hornets will need a step-up season from athletic senior Jameel Pugh and major contributions from such young players as sophomore forward Alex Bausley and newcomer Jason Harris, a 6-4 junior college transfer who does his best work on the wing. The frontcourt would get a big boost if 6-9 center Zane Beekman, another JC transfer, can play right away. Sacramento State has lots of talent, no doubt, but does it have the chemistry and know-how to win? That remains the key question

Coach: Jerome Jenkins (39-73, 4 years). Projected starters: G DaShawn Freeman, 5-11/Jr. (80.5 FT%, 35.3 3P%); G/F Jameel Pugh, 6-5/Sr. (4.9 rpg, 44.0 FG%); G/F Jason Harris, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F Alex Bausley, 6-6/So. (41.3 FG%, 39.1 3P%); C Zane Beekman, 6-9/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Sacramento.

Home court: Hornet Nest (1,200). Website: www.hornetsports.com

Mid-Continent

Rank 23

By John Mutka, The Post-Tribune, NORTHWEST INDIANA

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

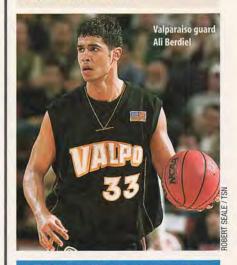
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
ā	Ken Tutt, Oral Roberts	6-1	175	So.
5	Craig Franklin, Chicago State	6-3	180	Sr.
	Dan Oppland, Valparaiso	6-8	225	Jr.
	Caleb Green, Oral Roberts	6-7	240	So.
G/F	Rawle Marshall, Oakland	6-7	190	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Ken Tutt, G, Oral Roberts

Tutt introduced himself by being named all-conference first team and rookie of the year. What will he do for an encore after setting school freshman records in scoring (20.7 ppg) and 3-pointers made (101)? He can carry the team for long stretches, having scored 25 points or more in eight games in a row. He might be a marked man but will leave his mark on the league, especially with Caleb Green relieving the pressure.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Larry Owens, G/F, Oral Roberts



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
-	W	L	W	L
Valparaiso*	11	5	18	13
IUPUI	10	6	21	11
Centenary	10	6	16	12
Oral Roberts	10	6	17	11
UM-Kansas City	9	7	15	14
Chicago State	9	7	12	20
Southern Utah	6	10	10	18
Oakland	6	10	13	17
Western Illinois	1	15	3	25

Lost to Gonzaga in NCAA St. Louis Region first round.

1. Oral Roberts*

Outlook: Primed for their first NCAA Tournament appearance in 20 years, the high-octane Golden Eagles return five starters, including savvy, threeyear regular Luke Spencer-Gardner, who was redshirted last year with a knee injury. Spencer-Gardner will join guard Ken Tutt and forward Caleb Green, who were the first freshmen from the same school to make a Division I all-conference first team since the 1930s. Look for Tutt and guard Jonathan Bluitt to light it up from the arc. Green led the league in rebounding. Transfer Larry Owens averaged 22.7 points and 10.6 rebounds as a junior college sophomore.

Coach: Scott Sutton (75-71, 5 years). Projected starters: G Ken Tutt, 6-1/So. (20.7 ppg, 44.7 FG%, 84.4 FT%, 44.9 3P%); G Luke Spencer-Gardner, 6-1/Sr. (medical redshirt); F Caleb Green, 6-7/So. (17.1 ppg, 9.9 rpg, 59.0 FG%); G/F Larry Owens, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); C Matt Gastel, 6-11/Sr. (4.0 rpg, 52.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1999 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1984.

Site: Tulsa, Okla.

Home court: Mabee Center (10,575). Website: www.orugoldeneagles.com

2. Valparaiso

Outlook: Losing Oumar Sylla, who transferred after 20 freshman starts, was unexpected, but coach Homer Drew still is thinking NCAA for the eighth time in 10 years. Drew is high on freshman Vincent Humphrey, a 6-4 guard who can post up or step out to the arc. Veterans Dan Oppland and Ali Berdiel hope to improve on their combined 30 points per game in conference play. The Crusaders need more than 20 minutes out of sophomore Ken Harris to hold their own on the boards, but his status is uncertain because of a back problem. Coach: Homer Drew (254-197, 15 years; 523-319 overall, 27 years; NCAA Tournament 2-7). Projected starters: G Jimmie Miles, 6-2/So. (40.0 FG%, 80.0 FT%); G/F Ali Berdiel, 6-6/Sr. (11.3 ppg, 6.0 apg, 36.6 3P%); G/F Ron Howard, 6-5/Jr. (44.0 FG%, 76.5 FT%); F Dan Oppland, 6-8/Jr. (15.7 ppg, 7.2 rpg, 54.6 FG%, 78.1 FT%); C Ken Harris, 6-10/So. (52.9 FG%, 72.2 FT%). Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Valparaiso, Ind.

Home court: Athletics-Recreation Center (5,000). Website: www.valpo.edu/athletics

3. Missouri-Kansas City

Outlook: All-time conference scoring leader Michael Watson's exit leaves a gaping hole, but the cupboard still is stocked. Swingman Mike English, perhaps the league's most complete player, heads a cast of four returning starters. He ranked among conference leaders in numerous categories, including rebounds, steals and blocked shots Veterans Brandon Lipsey and Brandon Temple join him with 20-plus starts. Temple qualifies as the Kangaroos' most accurate 3-point shooter. Coach: Rich Zvosec (42-45, 3 years, 145-193

overall, 12 years).

Projected starters: G Brandon Temple, 6-1/Sr. (3.9 apg, 42.9 FG%, 77.1 FT%, 39.4 3P%); G/F Mike English, 6-4/Sr. (12.4 ppg, 7.3 rpg, 47.8 FG%); F Corey Starks, 6-5/Sr. (4.5 rpg, 43.9 FG%); F Brandon Lipsey, 6-9/Jr. (5.6 rpg, 41.5 FG%, 36.5 3P%); C Carlton Aaron, 6-9/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 51.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Kansas City, Mo.

Home court: Municipal Auditorium (9,827). Website: www.umkckangaroos.com

4. IUPUI

Outlook: The Jaguars will be hard pressed to overcome the loss of guard Matt Crenshaw and conference player of the year Odell Bradley, who combined for 35 points and 13 rebounds per game. Transfer Michal Vavrek will help IUPUI continue its league mastery of the boards. The fast-breaking Jags are armed with guards Akeem Clark, who led the league in 3-pointers, and Brandon Cole, who can pound inside. If 6-8 forward James Booyer and guard Johnny Miller can bounce back from injuries, the Jags could spring into postseason play. Coach: Ron Hunter (157-135, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Akeem Clark, 6-2/Sr. (15.8 ppg, 42.3 FG%, 78.7 FT%, 41.1 3P%); G David Barlow, 5-11/So. (78.1 FT%); G Brandon Cole, 6-6/Jr. (10.9 ppg, 7.2 rpg. 76.3 FT%); F James Booyer, 6-8/Sr. (52.7 FG%); C Michal Vavrek, 6-9/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Indianapolis.

Home court: IUPUI Gymnasium (2,000). Website: www.iupui.edu/~jagsports

5. Oakland

Outlook: The Grizzlies underachieved even though they had three of the league's best players in Mike Helms, Rawle Marshall and Cortney Scott. But Helms is gone, and role player Shawn Hopes dropped out, which means the Grizzlies have only six experienced players. Marshall and Scott provide an outside-inside punch, but opponents fouled Scott last year because he shot only 46.7 percent from the line. Oakland hopes DeMarcus Ishmeal will take control of the point. Recruit Patrick McCloskey, a 6-7 power forward, could supply a second big body in the paint.

Coach: Greg Kampe (336-236, 20 years). Projected starters: G DeMarcus Ishmeal, 5-9/Sr.; G Pierre Dukes, 6-1/Jr.; F/G Rawle Marshall, 6-7/Sr. (17.6 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 45.3 FG%, 38.9 3P%); F Cortney Scott, 6-6/Sr. (12.4 ppg, 7.8 rpg, 52.2 FG%); F Patrick McCloskey, 6-7/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Rochester, Mich.

Home court: Athletics Center 'O'rena (4,000). Website: www.ougrizzlies.com

6. Chicago State

Outlook: Determined to prove last year's 9-7 conference record was no fluke, the Cougars return six players with starting experience. Craig Franklin and Tony Weeden head a backcourt that includes former sixth man Royce Parran. Whether Chicago State can contend will depend on how much a shaky front line contributes. Center Deji Akindele led the league in blocked shots but must boost his horrendous .488 free throw percentage and avoid foul problems. Inside depth will be a concern unless transfers Marin Mulic (6-10) and Brandon Woods (6-7) contribute.

Coach: Kevin Jones (12-32, 2 years). Projected starters: G Craig Franklin, 6-3/Sr. (14.3 ppg, 75.5 FT%); G Tony Weeden, 6-2/Sr. (13.6 ppg); G Royce Parran, 5-10/So. (45.4 FG%, 87.8 FT%, 42.9 3P%); F Nate Carter, 6-8/Jr. (41.5 FG%); C Deji Akindele, 7-1/So. (4.9 rpg, 58.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Chicago.

Home court: Jacoby D. Dickens Center (2,500).

Website: www.csu.edu/athletics

7. Southern Utah

Outlook: Southern Utah returns four veterans but needs better production from center Vaughn Schouten, who started nine games last year, and guard Dallas Rensch. If pure-shooting guard Jason Baker shows leadership, the Thunderbirds could finish as high as fifth in the conference. Transfer guard Curtis Lincoln, who tore up the Scenic West Conference for two years at North Idaho, should jump-start the offense with his ballhandling skills, and underrated forward DeAngelo Newsom provides a defensive spark.

Coach: Bill Evans (170-174, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Jason Baker, 6-2/Sr. (10.7 ppg, 45.1 FG%, 83.1 FT%, 45.2 3P%); G Dallas Rensch, 6-3/So. (37.5 3P%); G Curtis Lincoln, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); F DeAngelo Newsom, 6-5/Sr. (10.4 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 54.5 FG%); C Vaughn Schouten, 6-9/Jr.

Last regular-season title: 2001 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Cedar City, Utah.

Home court: The Centrum (5,300). Website: www.suu.edu/athletics

8. Centenary

Outlook: Guard Andrew Wisniewski and his 21.9point average is gone, and forward Chad Maclies is the top returning scorer with a 7.4 average. No one else contributed more than five points per game, so the Gents must rely on newcomers. Freshman Tyrone Hamilton and Cody Hopkins, who sat out last year with a knee injury, could supply perimeter pep. Defensively, the Gents will tumble after ranking No. 1 in the league in scoring defense (66.3 points allowed) and steals (8.82). Coach: Kevin Johnson (62-76, 5 years).

Projected starters: G Tyrone Hamilton, 6-2/Fr.; G Jarmorrow Moragne, 6-4/Sr. (42.0 FG%, 90.0 FT%, 46.2 3P%); G/F Curtis TillIman, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F Chad Maclies, 6-5/Sr. (6.3 rpg, 61.1 FG%, 79.7 FT%); F Joseph Polite, 6-7/So. (51.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Shreveport, La. Home court: Gold Dome (3,000). Website: www.centenary.edu/athletics

9. Western Illinois

Outlook: A highly rated recruiting class gives the Leathernecks a shot at reviving a struggling program. Forward Eulis Baez is eligible after transferring from Florida International, where he averaged 12.7 points and 8.2 rebounds. Chemistry will make it difficult for this team to unify, with the only returning starters being guard T.J. Gray and forward Will Lewis. The Leatherneckss will be big with freshman Kyle Lasek (6-10) and JC tranfers Eliz Cepeda (6-9) and Fred Oguns (6-7) joining Baez (6-8).

Coach: Derek Thomas (3-25, 1 year). Projected starters: G T.J. Gray, 5-9/So. (10.0 ppg, 3.1 apg, 89.6 FT%, 36.1 3P%); G David Jackson, 6-4/Fr.; F Will Lewis, 6-6/Sr. (4.7 rpg, 47.3 FG%, 75.4 FT%, 36.7 3P%); F Eulis Baez, 6-8/Sr. (transfer/Florida International); F Anthony Lenoir, 6-5/Sr. (44.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1983. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Macomb, III. Home court: Western Hall (5,139).

Website: www.wiuathletics.com

America East

Rank 24

By Andrew Neff, Bangor (Maine) Daily News

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	T.J. Sorrentine, Vermont	5-11	185	Sr.
G	Jose Juan Barea, Northeastern	6-0	173	Jr.
G	Kevin Reed, Maine	6-2	212	Jr.
F	Taylor Coppenrath, Vermont	6-9	250	Sr.
C	Nick Billings, Binghamton	7-0	255	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Taylor Coppenrath, F, Vermont

At 6-9 and 250, he doesn't look like fluid, but he goes wherever he pleases because no one can match up. The two-time player of the year has led his team to back-to-back conference tournament titles and Vermont's first-ever NCAA berths. He also led Vermont over Maine in the league title game with a tourney record 43 points three days after a broken wrist was deemed healed enough to play.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Ernest Turner, G, Maine

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Boston U.^	17	1	23	6
Vermont*	15	3	22	9
Northeastern	13	5	19	11
Maine	12	6	20	10
Binghamton	10	8	14	16
Hartford	6	12	12	17
New Hampshire	5	13	10	20
Stony Brook	5	13	10	20
UMBC	4	14	7	21
Albany	3	15	5	23

* Lost to Connecticut in NCAA Phoenix Region first round.

^ Lost to Rhode Island in NIT opening round.

1. Vermont*

Outlook: The Catamounts' rise is attributable to Taylor Coppenrath and T.J. Sorrentine, who swept the last three conference player of the year awards. Forwards Germain Njila and Martin Klimes are consistent, and the backcourt is deep with defensive star David Hehn and Alex Jensen.

Coach: Tom Brennan (239-269, 18 years; 291-345 overall, 23 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G T.J. Sorrentine 5-11/Sr. (14.8 ppg. 4.6 apg. 41.9 FG%, 78.4 FT%); G David Hehn 6-5/Sr. (75.8 FT%); F Germain Njila 6-4 Sr. (6.2 rpg, 44.3 FG%); F Taylor Coppenrath, 6-9/Sr. (24.1 ppg, 7.2 rpg, 51.0 FG%, 75.0 FT%); F Martin Klimes 6-8/So. (43.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie).

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Burlington, Vt.

Home court: Roy L. Patrick Gym (3,228). Website: www.uvmathletics.com

2. Boston

Outlook: The Terriers must replace Ryan Butt and starting point guard Matt Turner, but three starters return, including top scorers Chaz Carr and Rashad Bell. Omari Peterkin, a 6-8 transfer from Notre Dame, will be

eligible in the second semester to join a big front line with Bell and Kevin Gardner. Finding a point guard is paramount. Pat Martin and Bryan Geffen will get looks. Coach: Dennis Wolff (182-124, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Pat Martin, 6-2/So.; G Chaz Carr, 6-0/Sr. (13.0 ppg, 80.4 FT%, 35.6 3P%); G Shaun Wynn, 6-2/Jr. (4.4 rpg, 47.8 FG%, 37.5 3P%); F Rashad Bell, 6-8/Sr. (11.5 ppg, 6.8 rpg, 43.2 FG%); F Kevin Gardner, 6-8/Jr. (4.8 rpg, 52.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Boston.

Home court: Case Gymnasium (1,800)

Website: www.bu.edu/athletics

3. Maine

Outlook: The return of four starters and a healthy Jermaine Jackson make Maine a solid contender. So does UNLV transfer Ernest Turner, who should step in for departed point guard Eric Dobson. The Black Bears have quality, quantity and experience. The question is how they react to a late coaching change, with long-time assistant and key recruiter Ted Woodward replacing John Giannini.

Coach: Ted Woodward (1st year).

Projected starters: G Ernest Turner, 6-2/Jr. (transfer/ UNLV); G Kevin Reed, 6-2/Jr. (14.5 ppg, 7.2 rpg, 41.7 FG%, 76.8 FT%, 37.9 3P%); G Chris Markwood, 6-3/Sr.; F Joe Campbell, 6-7/Sr. (6.1 rpg, 45.2 FG%, 83.6 FT%); F Mark Flavin, 6-10/Sr. (11.6 ppg, 6.3 rpg, 54.5 FG%, 37.5 3P%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Orono, Maine.

Home court: Harold Alfond Sports Arena (5,712).

Website: www.goblackbears.com

4. Northeastern

Outlook: Guards Jose Juan Barea and Marcus Barnes match up favorably against most guard duos in the nation and are 3-point specialists. But graduation decimated the frontcourt. Bennet Davis is the lone returning starter up front, so La Salle transfer Jeff Farmer and freshman Shawn James must fill the gaps. Coach: Ron Everhart (42-47, 3 years; 134-151 overall, 10 years).

Projected starters: G Jose Juan Barea, 6-0/Jr. (20.7 ppg, 5.8 apg, 35.8 3P%); G Marcus Barnes, 6-2/Sr. (17.0 ppg, 76.7 FT%); G Aaron Davis, 6-3/Jr. (medical redshirt); F Shawn James, 6-9/Fr.; F Bennet Davis, 6-9/So. (4.8 rpg, 48.3 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1991.

Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: Boston.

Home court: Solomon Court (2,500).

Website: www.gonu.com

5. Binghamton

Outlook: The Bearcats' size and experience will be a tough matchup. But coach Al Walker has problems in a backcourt that returns only Troy Hailey. Freshman Mike Gordon and JC transfers Andre Heard and Schafer Jackson must step in quickly. Inside, Nick Billings, a 7-footer, will try to improve his production. Coach: Al Walker (51-62, 4 years; 193-233 overall, 16 years).

Projected starters: G Troy Hailey, 6-1/So. (37.2 3P%); G Andre Heard 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); G Billy Williams, 6-3/Sr. (36.4 3P%); F Sebastian Hermenier, 6-6/Jr. (4.5 rpg); C Nick Billings, 7-0/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 6.6

rpg, 3.5 bpg, 48.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Vestal, N.Y.

Home court: Events Center (5,800). Website: athletics.binghamton.edu

6. Albany

Outlook: All five starters return, and depth should be better. The biggest newcomer is 7-1 Kirsten Zoellner, who will be joined by 6-2 swingman Lucious Jordan. They step into a rotation that includes guard Jon lati, the league's top rookie last year. Also back is Jamar

Wilson, who averaged 18.9 points two years ago. **Coach:** Will Brown (19-57, 3 years).

Projected starters: G Jamar Wilson, 6-1/So. (red-shirt); G Jon lati, 5-9/So. (14.0 ppg, 3.0 apg, 75.6 FT%); G/F Lucious Jordan (transfer/Loyola); F Levi Levine, 6-6/Jr. (14.3 ppg, 6.1 rpg, 76.0 FT%); C Kirsten Zoellner, 7-1/Jr. (transfer/Boston College).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Albany, N.Y.

Home court: Rec. and Convocation Center (5,000)

Website: www.albany.edu/sports

7. Hartford

Outlook: Even with a deep backcourt and four starters returning, the Hawks could struggle. The healthy return of Trevor Goode and Bernard Lowndes will help shore up the front line, but the Hawks need contributions from three JC transfers.

Coach: Larry Harrison (46-72, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Aaron Cook, 6-2/Jr. (15.0 ppg, 75.0 FT%); G Charles Ford, 5-11/Jr. (42.1 FG%); G Sean Regan, 6-5/Sr. (6.2 rpg, 42.9 FG%); G/F Bo Taylor, 6-4/So. (5.9 rpg, 45.3 FG%); F Trevor Goode, 6-9/Sr. (43.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Hartford, Conn.

Home court: Reich Family Pavilion (3,977)

Website: www.hartfordhawks.com

8. New Hampshire

Outlook: The Wildcats' strength is their frontcourt, which returns Ben Sturgill, Craig Walls and Blagoj Janev. The backcourt picture is shaky. Help might come from Jermaine Anderson or freshman Phil Collins.

Coach: Phil Rowe (36-106, 5 years).

Projected starters: G Shejdie Childs, 5-10/Jr. (46.6 FG%); G Jermaine Anderson, 6-1/So. (50.0 FG%); F Craig Walls, 6-7/Sr. (7.1 rpg, 45.8 FG%); F Blagoj Janev, 6-8/So. (10.2 ppg, 39.3 3P%); C Ben Sturgill,

6-8/Sr. (13.1 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 61.0 FG%). Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Durham, N.H.

Home court: Lundholm Gymnasium (2,500).
Website: www.unhwildcats.com

9. Stony Brook

Outlook: The loss of D.J. Munir and big man Mike Konopka hurts. Point guard Bobby Santiago and Mitchell Beauford, who averaged 10.1 points as a freshman, will anchor the backcourt. The return of forwards Mike Popoko and Cori Spencer bodes well for the offense. Someone must become the leader. Coach: Nick Macarchuk (52-91, 5 years; 362-411 overall, 27 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Bobby Santiago, 6-2/Jr. (76.9 FT%); G Mitchell Beauford, 6-0/So. (10.1 ppg, 41.9 FG%); F Cori Spencer, 6-7/Sr. (10.3 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 52.3 FG%); F Mike Popoko, 6-5/So. (5.2 rpg, 42.0 FG%, 36.4 3P%); F JonPaul Kobryn, 6-9/Sr. (50.0 FG%, 75.0 FT%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Stony Brook, N.Y.

Home court: Indoor Sports Complex (4,103)

Website: www.goseawolves.org

10. Maryland-Baltimore County Outlook: Former assistant Randy Monroe takes over

a team that finished 7-21 in its first America East season but returns six of its top eight regular players.

Senior guard Rob Gogerty averaged 10.5 points and led the team in assists (112) and minutes (35.6).

Coach: Randy Monroe (1st year).

Projected starters: G Rob Gogerty, 6-1/Sr. (10.5 ppg, 4.0 apg, 80.6 FT%); G Chris Pugh, 6-2/So. (81.0 FT%); F Cory McJimson, 6-7/Jr. (5.5 ppg, 44.7 FG%); F Seth Davis 6-8/Jr. (44.4 FG%); F/C Andrew Feeley, 6-9/Sr. (5.0 ppg). Last regular-season title: 1999 (Northeast).

Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Baltimore.

Home court: Retrievers Activities Center (4,000).

Website: www.umbcretrievers.com

Northeast

By MICHAEL BRADLEY, FREE-LANCE WRITER

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Landy Thompson, Mt. St. Mary	s 6-1	178	Jr.
G	Darshan Luckey, St. Francis (Pa.)	6-5	200	Jr.
F	Gordon Klaiber, FDU	6-8	193	Jr.
F	Chaz McCrommon, R. Morris	6-6	200	Sr.
F	Blake Hamilton, Monmouth	6-7	225	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Gordon Klaiber, F, Fairleigh Dickinson

The Knights return three double-figure scorers, and Klaiber is the leader. He is equally effective inside and out, scoring well close to the basket and shooting 34.7 percent from beyond the arc last year. He's also an excellent rebounder and imposing interior defensive force who averaged 1.4 blocks last year. Klaiber is a good foul shooter and a perfect big man for the Knights' uptempo system, and he will help them contend for the league title.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Corey Hallett, C, Monmouth

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Monmouth*	12	6	21	12
St. Francis (N.Y.)	12	6	15	13
Fairleigh Dickinson	11	7	17	12
Robert Morris	10	8	14	15
St. Francis (Pa.)	10	8	13	15
Wagner	10	8	13	16
Central Conn. State	9	9	14	14
Sacred Heart	8	10	12	15
Mount St. Mary's	8	10	10	19
Quinnipiac	5	13	9	20
Long Island	4	14	8	19

Lost to Mississippi State in NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

1. Monmouth*

Outlook: The Hawks won their first regular-season crown and return enough firepower to repeat. The 1-2 scoring punch of forward Blake Hamilton and shooting guard Dwayne Byfield is a good place to start. Hamilton is excellent on the drive and around the hoop; Byfield hit 41.7 percent of his 3-pointers. Point guard Tyler Azzarelli is a good distributor who needs to look for his own shot more. Newcomers will help up front. Central Michigan transfer Corey Hallett steps into the post, and junior college import Brent Wilson adds rebounding. Look for continued solid play up front from tough, quick Marques Alston.

Coach: Dave Calloway (95-94, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Tyler Azzarelli, 6-1/Jr. (44.8 FG%); G Dwayne Byfield, 6-2/Sr. (12.3 ppg, 41.5 FG%, 75.7 FT%, 41.7 3P%); F Blake Hamilton, 6-7/Sr. (16.3 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 44.9 FG%, 76.4 FT%); F Marques Alston, 6-4/So. (45.0 FG%); C Corey Hallett, 6-11/Jr. (transfer/Central Michigan).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: West Long Branch, N.J. Home court: Boyland Gym (2,500).

Website: www.monmouth.edu/athletics

2. Fairleigh Dickinson

Outlook: Bernell Murray, a 5-10 freshman, will have plenty to say about the fate of Tom Green's go-go Knights. Marcus Whitaker and his 5.6-assist average are gone, forcing Murray into the spotlight. He is an uptempo type who fits the team well. Gordon Klaiber is a versatile high scorer, and Tamien Trent has an excellent outside stroke. Gadi Buch is a strong shooter, and Chad Timberlake is strong off the dribble. If sophomore forwards Andre Harris and Michael Peeples improve, this team will be dangerous.

Coach: Tom Green (338-267, 21 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Projected starters: G Bernell Murray, 5-10/Fr.: G Chad Timberlake, 6-4/Jr. (11.5 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 49.5 FG%); G Tamien Trent, 6-0/Sr. (12.0 ppg, 41.9 FG%, 78.3 FT%; 38.5 3P%); F Gadi Buch, 6-6/Sr. (83.3 FT%, 38.1 3P%); F Gordon Klaiber, 6-8/Jr. (16.5 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 46.1 FG%, 75.3 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1991 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Teaneck, N.J.

Home court: Rothman Center (5,000). Website: www.fduknights.com

3. St. Francis (Pa.)

Outlook: Four starters return, but several might lose their jobs as coach Bobby Jones tries to repair a defense that allowed opponents to shoot 48.1 percent. Look for JC import Garrett Farha, a pure distributor who also can lock down opponents on the perimeter, to run the point. The Red Flash also should get a boost up front from 6-9 J.R. Enright, a transfer from Nebraska. Returning swingman Darshan Luckey is a good scorer who needs to cut down on turnovers. Coach: Bobby Jones (52-86, 5 years).

Projected starters: G Garrett Farha, 5-10/Jr. (JC transfer); G Rahsaan Benton, 5-11/Jr. (46.3 FG%, 78.6 FT%, 45.2 3P%); G Darshan Luckey, 6-5/Jr. (17.6 ppg, 4.5 rpg; 40.0 FG%, 78.9 FT%); F Jason Osborne, 6-8/Sr. (12.1 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 52.3 FG%); C J.R. Enright, 6-9/So. (transfer/Nebraska).

Last regular-season title: 1991 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1991.

Site: Loretto, Pa. Home court: Stokes Athletic Center (2,500).

Website: www.francis.edu 4. Robert Morris

Outlook: Chaz McCrommon is a pure scorer; Maurice Carter is explosive from 3-point range. Both will benefit from the improved decision-making by point guard Derek Coleman. Coleman is backed up by senior Christopher Gooden, the man he replaced, and freshman Tony Lee, who figures also to see time at shooting guard. Mark Anderson returns at power forward, and junior college transfers Jakeel Gary and Steve Winding add a rugged presence to

Coach: Mark Schmidt (36-50, 3 years). Projected starters: G Derek Coleman, 5-11/So. (40.4 FG%, 40.7 3P%); G Maurice Carter, 6-0/Sr. (14.9 ppg, 3.2 apg, 75.8 FT%); F Chaz McCrommon, 6-6/Sr. (17.0 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 52.0 FG%, 77.3 FT%, 39.7 3P%); F Mark Anderson, 6-6/Sr. (4.6 rpg, 56.9 FG%, 77.3 FT%); C Jakeel Gary, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1992. Last NCAA appearance: 1992. Site: Moon Township, Pa. Home court: Sewall Center (3,056). Website: www.rmu.edu

5. St. Francis (N.Y.)

Outlook: With three starters gone, St. John's transfer Tristan Smith will have a chance shine. A 6-1 burner, he will like playing with point guard Tory Cavalieri, who averaged 5.8 assists last year. Perimeter support comes from Christian Brown and Sean Dantzler. Bangers Devon Neckles and Damien Herard man a soft interior. which could benefit from freshman James St. Robert. Coach: Ron Ganulin (174-192, 13 years; 201-215 overall, 15 years).

Projected starters: G Tory Cavalieri, 6-0/Sr. (4.7 rpg, 5.8 apg, 42.0 FG%, 76.9 FT%); G Sean Dantzler, 6-4/Sr. (37.8 3P%): G/F Christian Brown, 6-4/Jr. (4.1 rpg, 38.6 3P%); F Devon Neckles, 6-7/Sr. (5.5 rpg, 55.3 FG%); F Damien Herard, 6-7/Sr. (57.1 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.

Home court: Pope P.E. Center (1,250) Website: www.stfranciscollege.edu

6. Central Connecticut State

Outlook: Forward Rich Pittman and guard Justin Chiera are complementary double-figure scorers. Pittman is strong close to the hoop; Chiera can hit the 3. Junior Lenny Jefferson will battle freshman Tristan Blackwood for the point spot. Obie Nwadike will defend and gobble up offensive boards. Sophomore Javier Mojica has a solid all-around perimeter game. Coach: Howie Dickenman (126-106, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Lenny Jefferson, 6-0/Jr. (85.4 FT%, 40.5 3P%); G Justin Chiera, 6-1/Jr. (10.2 ppg, 77.4 FT%, 38.6 3P%); G DeMario Anderson, 6-2/So. (40.1 FG%, 38.3 3P%); F Rich Pittman, 6-6/Sr. (10.3 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 59.5 FG%); F Obie Nwadike, 6-4/So. (6.6 rpg, 58.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: New Britain, Conn.

Home court: Detrick Gymnasium (3,200). Website: www.ccsubluedevils.com

7. Mount St. Mary's

Outlook: A season-ending run and the return of four starters give the team momentum. Among the returnees are all-conference point Landy Thompson and Mychal Kearse, who emerged as a solid scoring option. Kiel Butler should become a force up front. Swingman Charles Cook has shown flashes of big potential. Freshman Jason Loughry will battle senior Jason Epps for playing time at center.

Coach: Milan Brown (10-19, 1 year). Projected starters: G Landy Thompson, 6-1/Jr. (17.7 ppg, 36.2 3P%); G Mychal Kearse, 6-4/So. (5.6 rpg); F Charles Cook, 6-5/Jr.; F Kiel Butler, 6-7/Jr. (11.1 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 40.9 FG%); C Jason Epps, 6-8/Sr. (44.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1996. Last NCAA appearance: 1999. Site: Emmitsville, Md.

Home court: Knott Arena (3,121). Website: www.mountathletics.com

8. Quinnipiac

Outlook: The Bobcats should be much bigger and badder with the arrival of 6-5 JC transfer Kevin Jolley and the debut of 6-8 redshirt Karl Anderson. Add that muscle to 6-9 rebounding monster C.J. Vick and you get a formidable front line. The guard spots belong to point man Rob Monroe and sharpshooter Craig Benson, although coach Joe DeSantis is hoping freshman Da-Shawn Dwight can step right in. Shooting guard Van Crafton supplies a bench spark. Coach: Joe DeSantis (82-140, 8 years).

Projected starters: G Rob Monroe, 5-10/Sr. (15.5 ppg, 5.2 apg, 79.4 FT%, 36.1 3P%); G Craig Benson, 6-3/Jr. (37.4 3P%); F Kevin Jolley, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); F Karl Anderson, 6-8/Fr. (redshirt); C C.J. Vick, 6-9/Sr. (6.6 rpg, 54.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Hamden, Conn.

Home court: Burt Kahn Court (2,000). Website: www.quinnipiacbobcats.com

9. Wagner

Outlook: The Seahawks lose their top three scorers. so coach Mike Deane will look for help from as many as six newcomers. The fresh faces will join returning center Sean Munson, a fine rebounder, and Jamal Webb, a capable wing scorer. The point guard job could go to junior DeEarnest McLemore, but only if he fends off freshman Mark Porter. Look for freshman Jamal Smith to step in at shooting guard and two more first-year hopefuls, Justin Drummond and James Ulrich, to battle for the open forward spot.

Coach: Mike Deane (13-16, 1 year; 356-236 overall, 20 years; NCAA Tournament 2-4).

Projected starters: G DeEarnest McLemore, 6-1/Jr. (40.7 FG%); G Jamal Smith, 6-5/Fr.; G Jamal Webb 6-5/So. (40.5 FG%); G/F Justin Drummond, 6-6/Fr.; F/C Sean Munson, 6-8/Sr. (8.6 rpg, 46.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003. Site: Staten Island, N.Y.

Home court: Spiro Sports Center (2,100). Website: www.wagner.edu/athletics

10. Sacred Heart

Outlook: No full-time starters return, so Pioneers coach Dave Bike will rely on recruits. Luke Granato, who sat out last season because of a backcourt logjam, could start at shooting guard alongside freshman guard Drew Shubik, who might be more of a scorer than distributor. Brice Brooks, a 6-7 freshman, is a candidate for one forward spot, and returnee Joey Henley should start at the other. Kibwe Trim, a fine interior scorer, rounds out what could be a potent starting five—or a wildly inconsistent group.

Coach: Dave Bike (412-348, 26 years).

Projected starters: G Drew Shubik, 6-4/Fr.; G Luke Granato, 6-6/Fr. (redshirt); F Brice Brooks, 6-7/Fr.; F Joey Henley, 6-5/So. (5.4 rpg, 58.3 FG%); C Kibwe Trim, 6-10/Jr. (10.6 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 60.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Fairfield, Conn.

Home court: Schwartz Athletic Center (1,000). Website: www.sacredheartpioneers.com.

11. Long Island

Outlook: There's plenty of youth and reason for optimism. Start with point guard James Williams, the conference's top newcomer last season. He also can play shooting guard. Sophomore Evan Meekins can turn games with his outside shooting. Redshirt freshman Chris Barksdale will play the middle if his knee is sound and provide shot blocking help for forward Esa Maki-Tulokas, the team's best rebounder. If sophomore Eugene Kotorobai doesn't show more consistency, freshman widebody Albert Forbes will get a chance. Coach: Jim Ferry (17-38, 2 years; 121-57 overall, 6

Projected starters: G James Williams, 5-10/So. (11.5 ppg, 3.8 apg, 78.1 FT%, 37.4 3P%); G Evan Meekins, 6-2/So. (80.6 FT%, 35.6 3P%); F Esa Maki-Tulokas, 6-7/So. (6.3 rpg, 40.1 FG%); F Eugene Kotorobai, 6-5/So. (4.7 rpg); F/C Chris Barksdale, 6-8/Fr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1997.

Site: Brooklyn, N.Y.

Home court: Schwartz Athletic Center (1,000). Website: www.liu.edu/blackbirds

Patriot

Rank 26

By Michael Bradley, free-lance writer

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

EIDCT TEAM

Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Kevin Bettencourt, Bucknell	6-2	175	Jr.
G	Jose Olivero, Lehigh	6-1	180	So.
G	Kevin Hamilton, Holy Cross	6-3	175	Jr.
C	Sean Knitter, Lafayette	6-8	260	Sr.
C	Chris McNaughton, Bucknell	6-11	220	So.

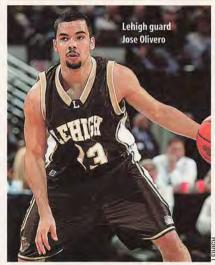
PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kevin Bettencourt, G, Bucknell

The Bison might not earn their first NCAA tourney berth since 1989, but don't blame Bettencourt. The versatile guard led the Bison in scoring and averaged 2.8 assists last season. Though he didn't shoot exceptionally well (35.6 percent from the field), he set a school record with 72 3pointers. Expect Bettencourt to be even more productive this season, as his marksmanship and decision-making improve.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Joe Knight, G, Lehigh



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Lehigh*	10	4	20	11
American	10	4	18	13
Lafayette	9	5	18	10
Bucknell	9	5	14	15
Holy Cross	7	7	13	15
Colgate	6	8	15	14
Army	3	11	6	21
Navy	2	12	5	23

1. Lehigh*

Outlook: With four starters returning from a team that shared the regular-season title, won the league tournament and qualified for its first NCAA berth since 1988, you'd think Lehigh is a sure bet to repeat. Not so fast. The one loss is point man Austen Rowland, the team's leading scorer, assist man and thief-not to mention the league player of the year. Expected to fill that void is High Point transfer Joe Knight, a former Big South rookie of the year. If he delivers, the Mountain Hawks will be in business because guard Jose Olivero showed long-range ability late last year, and the interior tandem of Jason Mgebroff and Earl Nurse can be formidable. Senior Nick Monserez and sophomore Kyle Neptune provide nice options on the wing. Coach: Billy Taylor (36-23, 2 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Joe Knight, 6-2/Jr. (transfer/High Point); G Jose Olivero, 6-1/So. (11.6 ppg, 76.7 FT%, 38.3 3P%); G/F Nick Monserez, 6-5/Sr. (43.5 FG%, 81.6 FT%, 40.0 3P%); F Earl Nurse, 6-7/Sr. (5.2 rpg, 41.4 FG%); C Jason Mgebroff, 6-10/So. (60.0 FG%, 79.2 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2004. Site: Bethlehem, Pa.

Home court: Stabler Arena (5,600). Website: www.lehigh.edu

2. Bucknell

Outlook: Bucknell concluded last season with four freshmen and two sophomores among its top seven players and will be relying on two other newcomers this year. So a championship still might be a season away. Shooting guard Kevin Bettencourt is the top gun, an outside threat who is capable of averaging 20 points. Abe Badmus will handle the point, with freshman John Griffin looking to step into the rotation. Up front, 6-11 Chris McNaughton is lethal close to the basket. Swingman Charles Lee is a much bigger threat inside than out, as is Donald Brown, a 6-6 forward. Add 6-8 freshman Darren Mastropaolo to the equation, and the Bison could be formidable in the paint.

Coach: Pat Flannery (149-136, 10 years; 244-179 overall, 15 years).

Projected starters: G Kevin Bettencourt, 6-2/Jr. (14.9 ppg, 81.9 FT%); G Abe Badmus, 6-0/So. (44.3 FG%); G Charles Lee, 6-4/Jr. (10.1 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 46.1 FG%, 81.8 FT%); F Donald Brown, 6-6/So. (54.5 FG%, 36.4 3P%); C Chris McNaughton, 6-11/So. (11.5 ppg, 5.5 rpg, 66.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1989. Last NCAA appearance: 1989. Site: Lewisburg, Pa.

Home court: Sojka Pavilion (4,000). Website: www.bucknellbison.com

3. Holy Cross

Outlook: Jave Meade, who averaged 5.5 assists and 2.1 steals last season, is gone, forcing coach Ralph Willard to search desperately for a point guard. First crack goes to sophomore Torey Thomas, a take-it-to-the-rim type whose 32.4 percent freshman field goal accuracy does not inspire confidence. If Thomas falters, look for 5-10 freshman Pat Doherty, a Meade-like distributor, to get the job. The winner of that battle and backcourt mate Greg Kinsey will try to get the ball inside to 6-11 center Nate Lufkin or to Kevin Hamilton and Keith Simmons on the wings. Hamilton led the team in scoring last season, and Simmons shot a lofty 45.8 percent from 3-point territory. Senior John Hurley, a solid rebounder, will be pushed by

6-10, 260-pound freshman Tim Clifford.

Coach: Ralph Willard (89-61, 5 years; 233-185 overall, 14 years; NCAA Tournament 2-5).

Projected starters: G Torey Thomas, 5-11/So. (76.9 FT%); G Greg Kinsey, 6-3/Sr.; G Kevin Hamilton, 6-3/Jr. (11.0 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 41.3 FG%, 38.7 3P%); G/F John Hurley, 6-7/Sr. (5.0 rpg, 46.9 FG%); C Nate Lufkin, 6-11/Sr. (4.9 rpg, 56.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Worcester, Mass.

Home court: Hart Recreation Center (3,600). Website: www.holycross.edu/athletics

4. American

Outlook: The loss of point man Andres Rodriguez and his 7.3 assists per game will be felt most by 3-point shooter Andre Ingram, who now will have to create his own shots. Rodriguez also fed sixth-man shooter Jason Thomas, who must step into a starting role because of the loss of athletic swingman Jernavis Draughn. Sophomore Linas Lekavicius, a go-go type who often prefers to shoot first and pass later, takes over the point guard spot. Raimondas Petrauskas will provide a solid interior presence, but 6-8 frontcourt mate Matej Cresnik spends too much time behind the arc. Senior Patrick Okpwae is tough on the boards; burly 6-5 freshman Travis Lay should be as well.

Coach: Jeff Jones (59-59, 4 years; 205-163 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 5-5).

Projected starters: G Linas Lekavicius, 5-11/So. (79.5 FT%, 36.8 3P%); G Andre Ingram, 6-3/So. (13.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 78.6 FT%, 39.6 3P%); G Jason Thomas, 6-3/Sr. (4.2 rpg, 42.5 FG%, 35.0 3P%); F Matej Cresnik, 6-8/Sr. (44.6 FG%, 81.2 FT%, 45.7 3P%); F Raimondas Petrauskas, 6-7/Sr. (51.9 FG%, 79.8 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Washington D.C. Home court: Bender Arena (4,500). Website: www.aueagles.com

5. Lafayette

Outlook: Coach Fran O'Hanlon will need time to get this team rolling with the loss of four starters. The one holdover is junior guard Pat Betley, a solid long-range shooter who will be joined on the perimeter by cousin Matt Betley, a freshman swingman. Sophomore Marcus Harley inherits the point and will be asked to focus more on distributing. Up front, center Sean Knitter is a good shooter, and Jamaal Douglas is tough to contain inside. Look for freshman guard Paul Cummins to get playing time, and O'Hanlon will rely on Andrei Capusan for rebounding.

Coach: Fran O'Hanlon (141-117, 9 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Marcus Harley, 5-11/So. (45.3 FG%, 42.4 3P%); G Pat Betley, 6-2/Jr. (41.7 FG%, 41.9 3P%); G Matt Betley, 6-4/Fr.; F Jamaal Douglas, 6-6/So. (66.7 FG%); C Sean Knitter, 6-8/Sr. (4.0 rpg, 44.9 FG%, 75.0 FT%, 40.3 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2000. Last NCAA appearance: 2000. Site: Easton, Pa.

Home court: Kirby Sports Center (3,500). Website: www.goleopards.com

6. Colgate

Outlook: The top two scorers from last season (Howard Blue and Mark Linebaugh) are gone, and coach Emmett Davis figures to have a tough time improving on a 15-14 finish. All four newcomers could see significant time, with 6-3 guard Kyle

Roemer, 6-5 swingman Tim Pounds and 6-7 forward Alex Woodhouse, all freshmen, offering the biggest upside. Junior guard Alvin Reed should continue his strong outside shooting while improving on his distribution at the point, hopefully setting up backcourt mate Jon Simon (a 43.4 percent longrange shooter) for more 3s. Sophomore Kendall Chones has big potential both inside and out, and senior Andrew Zidar is steady in the middle.

Coach: Emmett Davis (86-84, 6 years).

Projected starters: G Alvin Reed, 6-1/Jr. (11.4 ppg, 36.3 3P%); G Jon Simon, 6-0/So. (41.0 FG%, 92.5 FT%, 43.4 3P%); F Kendall Chones, 6-7/So. (4.7 rpg, 54.1 FG%); G/F Keith Williams, 6-3/Sr. (41.1 FG%); F/C Andrew Zidar, 6-8/Sr. (6.6 rpg, 53.0 FG%, 38.5 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 1996 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1996. Site: Hamilton, N.Y. Home court: Cotterell Court (3,100). Website: www.gocolgateraiders.com

7. Navy

Outlook: Former Villanova assistant Billy Lange takes the coaching reins in Annapolis and brings energy to a big job. The Midshipmen slumped to 5-23 season and their worst Patriot finish at 2-12. Navy didn't shoot, didn't defend and turned the ball over way too often. Lange welcomes back solid point man Taj Mathews and athletic forward Carlton Baldwin. Shooting guard David Hooper can score but needs to improve on the other end of the court. Look for good rebounding from Laramie Mergerson, who came on late last year, and an improvement from George O'Garro, who played over the summer for the Virgin Islands national team. Two freshmen, 6-10 Ben Biles and guard Ben Falkenberg, will make immediate impacts.

Coach: Billy Lange (1st year).

Projected starters: G Taj Mathews, 6-2/Sr.; G David Hooper, 6-5/Jr. (4.0 rpg); F Carlton Baldwin, 6-6/So. (4.1 rpg, 42.6 FG%); F George O'Garro, 6-6/Sr. (44.2 FG%); F/C Laramie Mergerson, 6-6/Sr. (44.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Annapolis, Md.

Home court: Alumni Hall (5,710). Website: www.navysports.com

8. Army

Outlook: With a roster containing 11 sophomores, coach Jim Crews has plenty of young candidates for jobs. But he is making no promises, especially since some of those players struggled through their plebe years. Among the likely regulars are point guard Matt Bell, shooter Travis Owsley and combo guard Marshall Jackson. Steve Stoll could blossom, but only if his shooting improves. Seth Sanert is a good passer. Forward Colin Harris can play inside or move out to the arc, leaving board responsibilities to Erik Engstrom, the team's only junior and one of two upperclassmen. Expect at least one or two freshmen to get significant minutes.

Coach: Jim Crews (11-43, 2 years; 305-252 overall, 19 years; NCAA Tournament 1-4).

Projected starters: G Matt Bell, 6-1/So. (39.6 3P%); G Travis Owsley, 5-11/So.; G Marshall Jackson, 6-0/So.; F Colin Harris, 6-7/So.; C Erik Engstrom, 6-7/Jr. (41.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: West Point, N.Y.

Home court: Christl Arena (5,043). Website: www.goarmysports.com

Ivy

By Mark Eckel, The Times (Trenton, N.J.)

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

	IN 1 1 1007 CLYL			
Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Jason Forte, Brown	6-1	165	Sr.
G	Will Venable, Princeton	6-3	200	Sr.
F/C	Judson Wallace, Princeton	6-10	230	Sr.
G	Tim Begley, Pennsylvania	6-6	220	Sr.
F	Andre Logan, Princeton	6-6	210	Sr.

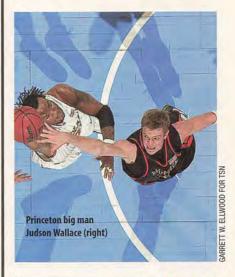
PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Judson Wallace, F/C, Princeton

The Tigers' offense revolves around its pivot, and Wallace was a major factor in Princeton's return last season to the NCAA Tournament. He averaged 15.3 points and 6.4 rebounds and should be even better this time around under new coach Joe Scott, a former Princeton assistant. Look for another dominant year from the big man and for the Tigers to reach the tournament for a second straight year.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Jason Canady, G, Cornell



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Princeton*	13	1	20	8
Brown	10	4	14	13
Pennsylvania	10	4	17	10
Yale	7	7	12	15
Columbia	6	8	10	17
Cornell	6	8	11	16
Harvard	3	11	4	23
Dartmouth	1	13	3	25

* Lost to Texas in NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

1. Princeton*

Outlook: The Tigers have the weapons to repeat under new coach Joe Scott. He will build around 6-10 center Judson Wallace, the league's best big man. Andre Logan returned from two knee surgeries last year and is primed for a huge season along with reliable Will Venable. All Max Schafer and Scott Greenman must do is putt the ball in the right place. Coach: Joe Scott (1st year; 51-63 overall, 4 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Scott Greenman, 5-9/Jr. (45.0 FG%, 83.8 FT%); G Max Schafer, 6-1/So.; G Will Venable, 6-3/Sr. (10.3 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 2.9 apg, 56.8 FG%, 36.6 3P%); F Andre Logan, 6-6/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 45.2 FG%); F/C Judson Wallace, 6-10/Sr. (15.3 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 50.5 FG%, 35.2 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Princeton, N.J.

Home court: Jadwin Gymnasium (6,854). Website: www.goprincetontigers.com

2. Pennsylvania

Outlook: The attack centers on Tim Begley. With an inexperienced inside game, the Quakers need plenty of Begley 3s. Mark Zoller and brahim Jaaber played well as freshmen and can make bigger contributions. A big question is whether senior point guard Eric Osmundson can run the offense efficiently. Coach: Fran Dunphy (270-145, 15 years; NCAA Tournament 1-7).

Projected starters: G Eric Osmundson, 6-5/Sr.: G Ibrahim Jaaber, 6-2/So. (48.4 FG%); G Tim Begley, 6-6/Sr. (13.1 ppg, 4.2 apg, 4.3 rpg, 46.0 FG%, 45.6 3P%); G/F Mark Zoller, 6-6/So. (4.7 rpg, 56.0 FG%, 78.7 FT%); C Jan Fikiel, 6-10/Sr. (46.7 FG%, 75.0 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Philadelphia.

Home court: The Palestra (8,722). Website: www.pennathletics.com

3. Yale

Outlook: Hopes for a turnaround from 12-15 focus on Edwin Draughan and Alex Gamboa, who form a tough, experienced backcourt. But the key might be center Dominick Martin, who has not been dominant. Martin must add to his scoring and rebounding totals. Yale also hopes to get help from freshman swingmen twins Caleb and Nick Holmes.

Coach: James Jones (64-76, 5 years). Projected starters: G Edwin Draughan, 6-6/Sr. (11.6 ppg, 3.2 apg, 45.2 FG%); G Alex Gamboa, 6-0/Sr. (3.8 apg, 42.2 FG%, 39.7 3P%); G/F Casey Hughes, 6-6/So. (50.0 FG%, 52.0 3P%); F Sam Kaplan, 6-7/So. (47.5 FG%); C Dominick Martin, 6-10/Sr. (11.4 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 60.3 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1962

Site: New Haven, Conn.

Home court: John J. Lee Amphitheater (3,100). Website: www.yale.edu/athletics

Outlook: Jason Forte, last year's lvy player of the year, has a new supporting cast with three sophomores expected to start. Luke Ruscoe, Forte's backcourt partner, should provide some of the scoring help. Inside, the Bears need P.J. Flaherty to step up. A big lift could come from athletic Nathan Eades, who missed two seasons on a Mormon mission. Coach: Glen Miller (71-66, 5 years)

Projected starters: G Jason Forte, 6-1/Sr. (16.8 ppg, 5.0 apg, 45.9 FG%, 79.6 FT%, 39.7 3P%); G Luke Ruscoe, 6-7/Jr. (4.3 rpg, 46.9 FG%, 41.1 3P%); F P.J Flaherty, 6-9/So. (46.2 FG%); F Sam Manhanga, 6-6/So. (45.0 FG%, 42.9 3P%); G Marcus Becker, 6-2/So.

Last regular-season title: 1986.

Last NCAA appearance: 1986.

Site: Providence, R.I.

Home court: Pizzitola Sports Center (2.800). Website: www.brownbears.com

5. Cornell

Outlook: The Big Red started 5-0 in the conference last season but faded, and all-conference performer Ka'Ron Barnes is gone. On hand will be a talented group of newcomers, led by point guard Jason Canady, who averaged 27.5 points as a high school player, and forward Ryan Rourke.

Coach: Steve Donahue (32-76, 4 years). Projected starters: G Cody Toppert, 6-4/Jr. (14.6 ppg, 84.0 FT%, 35.8 3P%); G Jason Canady, 6-3/Fr.; F Lenny Collins, 6-6/Jr. (10.3 ppg, 5.2 rpg, 41.0 FG%, 80.6 FT%); F/C Eric Taylor, 6-8/Sr. (7.5 rpg, 58.5 FG%); F Ryan Rourke, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1988. Last NCAA appearance: 1988.

Site: Ithaca, N.Y.

Home court: Newman Arena (4,473). Website: www.cornellbigred.com

Columbia

Outlook: In his first year, Joe Jones did a nice job to win 10 games. Now senior Matt Preston returns with his 15.3-point average, as does frontcourt mate Dragutin Kravic. Jones must decide whether to go with backcourt experience in Jeremiah Boswell and Tito Hill or work in freshman Justin Armstrong. Coach: Joe Jones (10-17, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Jeremiah Boswell, 6-4/Sr. (75.0 FT%); G Tito Hill, 6-4/Sr. (2.6 apg, 42.2 FG%); F Matt Preston, 6-5/Sr. (15.3, 5.4 rpg, 47.2 FG%, 84.5 FT%), F Dragutin Kravic, 6-8/Jr. (12.3 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 51.9 FG%, 43.9 3P%); F Colin Davis, 6-5/Sr. (44.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1968. Last NCAA appearance: 1968. Site: New York.

Home court: Levien Gym (3,400). Website: www.gocolumbialions.com

7. Harvard

Outlook: The return of 7-footer Brian Cusworth (foot) is a good start. It will be up to points Michael Beal and David Giovacchini to get the ball inside to Cusworth and forwards Graham Beatty and Matt Stehle. Not a champion, but this team will improve. Coach: Frank Sullivan (141-200, 13 years)

Projected starters: G Michael Beal, 6-4/Jr. (3.1 apg, 5.2 rpg, 77.1 FT%); G Kevin Rogus, 6-4/Sr. (14.7 ppg, 80.7 FT%); F Jason Norman, 6-3/Sr. (42.4 FG%); F Matt Stehle, 6-8/Jr. (13.6 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 52.1 FG%); C Brian Cusworth, 7-0/So. (medical redshirt).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1946. Site: Cambridge, Mass. Home court: Lavietes Pavilion (2,195).

Website: gocrimson.ocsn.com

8. Dartmouth

Outlook: New coach Terry Dunn has his work cut out for him. Leon Pattman, last year's top lvy League rookie, is a good start. There also is experience in Mike McLaren and Steve Callahan, and Calvin Arnold is expected to contribute. If Dunn goes young, look for freshman wing Johnathan Ball to play a lot. Coach: Terry Dunn (1st year).

Projected starters: F Calvin Arnold, 6-9/Jr. (4.5 rpg); G Steve Callahan, 6-3/Sr. (2.2 apg, 39.1 3P%); G Mike Lang, 6-3/Jr. (80.0 FT%, 35.6 3P%); G Mike McLaren, 6-3/Sr. (80.0 FT%); G Leon Pattman, 6-2/So. (13.2 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 46.2 FG%, 88.6 FT%).

Last regular-season title: 1959 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1959.

Site: Hanover, N.H.

Home court: The Leede Arena (2,100). Website: www.dartmouth.edu/athletics

Southland

Rank 28

PAUL LETLOW, THE NEWS-STAR (MONROE, LA.)

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Willie Depron, Nicholls State	6-1	180	Sr.
G	J. Wallace, Northwestern St.	6-3	215	Jr.
F	Steven Thomas, UT-Arlington	6-5	215	Jr.
F/G	Joe Thompson, Sam Houston St.	6-4	202	Sr.
(Nate Lofton, SE Louisiana	6-10	250	Sr.

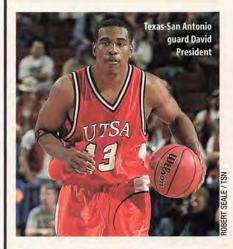
PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Nate Lofton, C, Southeastern Louisiana

Lofton was the league's best big man last season, averaging a double-double. The 6-10 center led the league in rebounding and helped the Lions to their best record in 30 years as well as a share of the Southland Conference title. Lofton figures to be dominant in the conference again this year. The only catch is the transfer might run out of eligibility after the first half of the season.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Cecil Hood, G, Louisiana-Monroe



2003-04 STANDINGS

W 11 11	5 5 5	20 17 19	9 12
11	5	17	12
11		100	
-75	5	10	
		19	14
10	6	21	9
8	8	13	15
8	8	13	15
8	8	11	17
8	8	12	19
7	9	11	16
5	11	11	18
1	15	6	21
	8 8 8 7 5	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 7 9 5 11 1 15	8 8 13 8 8 13 8 8 11 8 8 12 7 9 11 5 11 11

1. Texas-San Antonio*

Outlook: The Roadrunners return eight letterman and four starters from a team that won a share of the regular-season title and the conference tournament. But they will be without LeRoy Hurd, the conference player of the year. One possibility to fill his shoes is center Ray Selvage, who averaged 16 points, 13 rebounds and four blocked shots last season in junior college. Even without Hurd, UTSA is a veteran team with four players 6-9 or taller. Coach: Tim Carter (134-122, 9 years; 145-138

Projected starters: G Kurt Attaway, 6-0/So. (3.2 apg); G Justin Harbert, 6-1/Sr. (10.5 ppg, 40.3 FG%. 88.6 FT%); G David President, 6-1/Sr. (41.6 FG%); G/F Rapheal Posey, 6-2/Sr. (11.4 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 41.3 3P%); C Ray Selvage, 6-8/Jr. (JC transfer).

overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: San Antonio.

Home court: UTSA Convocation Center (5,100). Website: www.goutsa.com

2. Northwestern State

Outlook: The Demons have a junior-laden roster featuring point guard Jermaine Wallace, a rising star. Wallace is the leading scorer returning in the league after averaging 15.5 points. Forward Clifton Lee, another productive third-year starter, averaged 13.2 points and 7.5 rebounds. Forward Jermaine Spencer, who redshirted last season after suffering a knee injury, is a key returnee. Coach: Mike McConathy (66-82, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 1-1).

Projected starters: G Jermaine Wallace, 6-3/Jr. (15.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 41.2 FG%); G Tyronn Mitchell, 6-1/Jr. (4.1 apg, 52.4 3P%); F Byron Allen, 6-7/Jr. (4.7 rpg, 50.9 FG%); F Jermaine Spencer, 6-7/So. (redshirt); F Clifton Lee, 6-7/Jr. (13.2 ppg, 7.5 rpg).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 2001.

Site: Natchitoches, La.

Home court: Prather Coliseum (3.900).

Website: www.nsudemons.com

3. Sam Houston State

Outlook: Joe Thompson, a double-figure scorer in 22 games last season, should be a leading candidate for conference player of the year. Another plus is the return of Eddy Fobbs, who redshirted last year because of a knee injury. With such talent in place, coach Bob Marlin should have the Bearkats in contention after finishing 13-15, 8-8 last year. Coach: Bob Marlin (98-72 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Chris Jordan, 6-4/Jr. (50.3 FG%); F Kelvin Williams, 6-4/So. (6.0 rpg, 50.7 FG%); F Joe Thompson, 6-4/Sr. (15.3 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 4.0 apg); F Wilder Auguste, 6-6/Sr. (10.8 ppg, 5.5 rpg, 57.3 FG%); C Eddy Fobbs, 6-11/Sr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Huntsville, Texas.

Home court: Johnson Coliseum (6,100).

Website: bearkats.shsu.edu

4. Stephen F. Austin

Outlook: The team, which won 21 games last season, has to replace all-conference forward Antonio Burks. But point guard Marcus Clark is a two-year starter with all-conference potential, and Leonard Brown should thrive as Clark's backcourt mate. Center Taylor Moore, who lost his eligibility midway through last season, is back.

Coach: Danny Kaspar (64-49, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Marcus Clark, 5-10/Jr. (3.9 apg, 41.7 FG%, 79.3 FT%, 38.6 3P%; G Leonard Brown, 5-7/Sr. (83.3 FT%); F Anthony Paez, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); F Justin Thomas, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); C Hank Rivers, 6-8/Sr. (5.1 rpg, 51.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1987 (Gulf Star). Last NCAA appearance: 1987.

Site: Nacogdoches, Texas.

Home court: Johnson Coliseum (7,200).

Website: www.sfajacks.com

5. Southeastern Louisiana

Outlook: The Lions, who went 20-9 last season, lose four seniors. And there are questions about the status of star center Nate Lofton, who is waiting for the NCAA to rule on his eligibility. Two junior college transfers, quard Chris Lee and forward Ricky Woods, could make an impact. And keep an eye on two other transfers: Point guard Scott Roninger (North Texas) and 6-9 center Leonard Harden (Miami, Fla.) become eligible at midterm.

Coach: Billy Kennedy (56-85, 5 years; 80-117 overall, 7 years).

Projected starters: G Jonathan Patton, 6-2/Sr.: G Terry Bryant, 6-1/So.; G Chris Lee 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Ricky Woods, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); C Nate Lofton 6-10/Sr. (13.2 ppg, 10.9 rpg, 59.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Hammond, La.

Home court: University Center (7,500).

Website: www.lionsports.net

6. Texas-Arlington

Outlook: The Mavericks, who shared their first conference title last season, lost four seniors. But forward Steven Thomas, who averaged 12.1 points, returns, and sophomore Stephen Floyd is a decent perimeter threat. Point guard Jarrett Howell brings toughness and confidence, and forward Stevin Ozier, a transfer, has a chance to contribute. Coach: Eddie McCarter (152-180, 12 years). Projected starters: G Jarrett Howell, 5-11/Jr. (43.0 FG%, 77.2 FT%); G Stephen Floyd, 6-3/So. (35.0 3PT%); F Steven Thomas, 6-5/Jr. (12.1 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 50.7 FG%); F Jermaine Griffin, 6-8/Fr.; C Stevin Ozier, 6-8/Sr. (transfer/Stephen F. Austin).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Arlington, Texas.

Home court: Texas Hall (3,600).

Website: www.utamavs.com

7. Louisiana-Monroe

Outlook: The Indians didn't have one doubledigit scorer last season, and coach Mike Vining needed a more athletic roster to run his system. A couple of junior college transfers could help. Guard Darryl Mason, who sat out last year, and guard Cecil Hood, a versatile guard, should provide a boost. For size, the team is counting on a return to health for 6-8 center Oliver Haranga. Coach: Mike Vining (394-283 overall, 23 years; NCAA Tournament 0-7).

Projected starters: G Aaron Branch, 6-2/Sr.; G Cecil Hood, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Isaac Gay, 6-6/So.; F DeAndre Alexander, 6-4/Sr. (6.3 rpg, 47.8 FG%); C Oliver Haranga, 6-8/Jr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 1997 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Monroe, La.

Home court: Fant-Ewing Coliseum (8,000).

Website: www.ulmathletics.com

8. Lamar

Outlook: Coach Billy Tubbs has a top-notch

recruiting class to go with returning guards Raymond Anthony and Teddy Davis and center Jason Grant. If Tubbs gets all the newcomers on the same page, the Cardinals could jump into the conference's upper echelon.

Coach: Billy Tubbs (86-64, 5 years; 606-315 overall, 29 years; NCAA Tournament 18-12). Projected starters: G Raymond Anthony, 5-11/Sr. (15.5 ppg, 3.7 rpg, 36.4 3P%, 90.8 FT%); G Teddy Davis, 6-3/Sr. (13.2 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 47.1 FG%, 79.0 FT%); G Jeremy Long, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Thomas Fairly, 6-9/Jr. (JC transfer); C Jason Grant, 6-9/Jr. (6.1 rpg, 2.5 bpg, 50.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1984. Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Beaumont, Texas.

Home court: Montagne Center (10,080). Website: dept.lamar.edu/athletics

9. Texas State

Outlook: The Bobcats might be undersized, but they usually make up for it from the perimeter. Texas State typically is one of the best 3-point shooting teams in the conference; last year, the Bobcats averaged 7.5 3-pointers per game. Senior guard Josh Naylor, the top returning scorer, hit 62 3-pointers. Coach: Dennis Nutt (55-58, 4 years; NCAA

Tournament 0-2). Projected starters: G Josh Naylor, 6-0/Sr. (11.3 ppg, 44.0 FG%, 93.3 FT%, 41.6 3P%); G Andre Oupoh, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); G Brad Brickens, 6-4/Jr. (redshirt); F Zach Allison, 6-5/Sr. (4.4 rpg, 48.8 FG%); F Anthony Dill, 6-7/Sr. (4.7 rpg, 55.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1999. Last NCAA appearance: 1997.

Site: San Marcos, Texas.

Home court: Strahan Coliseum (7,200). Website: www.txstatebobcats.com

10. McNeese State

Outlook: The Cowboys, who need to improve their interior defense, will be more rugged in the paint with 6-9 junior college transfers Darrius Manciel and Lance Hood. Transfer guard Troy Aaron will join the squad at midterm and should help. Coach: Tic Price (47-39, 3 years; 140-93 overall, 10 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: G Troy Aaron, 6-1/So. (transfer/Tulane); G Ryan Price, 6-2/So. (42.0 FG%); F Ronald Dorsey, 6-6/Sr. (81.0 FT%); F Marcus Watts, 6-8/Jr. (4.6 rpg, 53.0 FG%, 75.0 FT%); C Darrius Manciel, 6-11/Jr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Lake Charles, La.

Home court: Burton Coliseum (8,000). Website: www.mcneese.edu/sports

11. Nicholls State

Outlook: Coach Ricky Blanton has a terrific building block in senior point Willie Depron, who scored in double figures in 20 games last season and topped the 20-point mark 11 times. Fellow senior Jason Wilkins is a good backcourt mate.

Coach: Ricky Blanton (9-46 overall, 2 years). Projected starters: G Willie Depron, 6-1/Sr (15.4 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 3.6 apg); G Shaun King, 5-11/So.; F Maurice Veal, 6-9/So. (42.9 FG%); F Jason Wilkins, 6-6/Sr. (11.1 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 82.7 FT%, 37.9 3P%; C Kieran Gleeson, 6-9/So. (36.4 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1998.

Site: Thibodaux, La.

Home court: Stopher Gymnasium (3,000).

Website: www.nicholls.edu



Rank 29

By Mark Alexander, Clarion-Ledger (Jackson, Miss.)

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Obie Trotter, Alabama A&M	6-1	185	Jr.
G	Brion Rush, Grambling St.	6-2	170	Jr.
G/F	Solomon Forbes, Miss. Valley St.	6-5	210	Sr.
F	Deon Saunders, Southern	6-5	210	Sr.
G/F	Ralfeal Golden, Alabama St.	6-4	185	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Obie Trotter, G, Alabama A&M

Deon Saunders is tough as nails, and Brion Rush has a sweet shot. But no one does more for his team than Trotter. He ranked second in the league in scoring (18.2 ppg), second in assists (4.3 apg) and first in steals (3.0 spg). Trotter also shot 36.3 percent on 3-pointers as the Bulldogs tied for fourth in the regular season and advanced to the SWAC tournament championship game.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Charlie White, G, Jackson State



2003-04 STANDINGS

	Conference		Ove	rall	
	W	L	W	L	
Miss. Valley St.	16	2	22	7	
Texas Southern	11	7	15	14	
Alabama State*	11	7	16	15	
Alabama A&M	9	9	13	17	
Jackson State	9	9	12	17	
Alcorn State	9	9	11	18	
Grambling	9	9	11	18	
Southern	8	10	11	17	
Prairie View A&M	7	11	7	20	
ArkPine Bluff	1	17	1	26	

* Lost to Duke in the NCAA Atlanta Region first round.

1. Southern*

Outlook: Southern could win its first league title since 1993 as coach Michael Grant returns almost all of his top players. That group is led by reigning newcomer of the year Deon Saunders, who at times can be unstoppable in the post. Jerrid Campbell, one of the up-and-coming big men in the league before sustaining a knee injury early last season, also returns. Grant has made defense a priority and will have more depth with the addition of JC signees Chris Alexander and Joseph Holmes, who is expected to have a large impact.

Coach: Michael Grant (12-16, 1 year). Projected starters: G Chris Alexander, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); G Trayvean Scott, 6-0/Sr. (37.3) 3P%); G/F Alvin Mott, 6-6/Jr. (JC transfer); F Deon Saunders, 6-5/Sr. (18.4 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 57.9 FG%); F Joseph Holmes, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer).

Last regular-season title: 1993. Last NCAA appearance: 1993.

Site: Baton Rouge, La.

Home court: F.G. Clark Activity Center (7,500). Website: www.subr.edu/athletics

2. Alabama State

Outlook: The defensive-minded Hornets have been consistent contenders. Coach Rob Spivery's team, loaded with newcomers a year ago, got off to a slow start but won 10 of its last 11 games and made the NCAA Tournament. With the majority of those players returning, expect Alabama State to be in the mix again. Arkansas-Pine Bluff transfer Lamarquis Blake takes over for the departed Malcolm Campbell at point guard.

Coach: Rob Spivery (114-121, 8 years; 299-265 overall, 19 years; 0-2 NCAA Tournament).

Projected starters: G Lamarquis Blake, 5-11/Jr. (transfer/Arkansas-Pine Bluff); G Alexander Oliver, 6-1/Jr. (46.1 FG%, 35.6 3P%); G/F Ralfeal Golden, 6-4/Sr. (12.1 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 40.8 FG%, 75.5 FT%); F Akeim Claborn, 6-7/Sr. (4.7 rpg, 42.0 FG%, 35.7 3P%); F Kevin Spicer, 6-6/Sr.

Last regular-season title: 2001.

Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003. Site: Montgomery, Ala.

Home court: Joe L. Reed Acadome (8,000). Website: www.alasu.edu

3. Mississippi Valley State
Outlook: Coach Lafayette Stribling has some major rebuilding to do. Attarrius Norwood, the SWAC player of the year, Willie Neal and Edward Mack have departed. The free-wheeling Delta Devils likely won't fall much, though, as versatile swingman Solomon Forbes returns and talented newcomers arrive. Jerminey Bennett, the nation's leading JC scorer (27.2 ppg) a year ago, and JC forward Emmanuel Audigon should be perfect fits in Stribling's uptempo attack.

Coach: Lafayette Stribling (304-303, 21 years; NCAA Tournament 0-3).

Projected starters: G Jerminey Bennett, 5-10/Sr. (JC transfer); G Solomon Forbes, 6-5/Sr. (14.0 ppg, 78.2 FT%); F Jeffrey Price, 6-8/So. (51.9 FG%); F Emmanuel Audigon, 6-5/Jr. (JC transfer); C Ronald Alexander, 6-10/Jr. (51.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last NCAA appearance: 1996.

Site: Itta Bena. Miss.

Home court: Harrison HPER Complex (5,500). Website: www.mvsu.edu/athletics.html

4. Texas Southern

Outlook: Coach Ronnie Courtney has returned Texas Southern to the upper echelon in the SWAC. Five of the top seven scorers return from last year's third-place team, led by guards Allen Lovett and Sean Walker. Walker will move to shooting

guard to make room for highly touted freshman point guard Justin Wilson, one of eight newcomers. Courtney also is high on incoming wing players Bobby Cole, Marlon Hill and Jacques Jones. With more athletic players, look for the Tigers to scrap their set-driven offense for a more open-floor approach.

Coach: Ronnie Courtney (43-45, 3 years; 0-1 NCAA Tournament).

Projected starters: G Justin Wilson, 5-8/Fr.; G Sean Walker, 6-3/Jr. (10.3 ppg, 40.2 FG%); G/F Allen Lovett, 6-5/Sr. (13.9 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 41.7 FG%); F Jerome Bell, 6-6/Sr. (48.3 FG%); F/C Raymond Warner, 6-8/Sr. (50.0 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Houston.

Home court: Health & PE Arena (7,500). Website: www.tsu.edu/athletics

5. Alabama A&M

Outlook: Coach Vann Pettaway loses four seniors. However, the return of Obie Trotter and one of the best incoming recruiting classes in the conference should be enough to make the Bulldogs contenders. The athletic recruiting class is highlighted by one of the top JC players in Alabama a year ago, Joseph Martin. Rickey Ricketts is a streaky shooter. Pettaway is banking on a breakout season from forward Chris Collins, a talented player who has battled injuries.

Coach: Vann Pettaway (366-167, 18 years). Projected starters: G Obie Trotter, 6-1/Jr. (18.2 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 4.3 apg, 43.0 FG%, 36.3 3P%, 76.6 FT%); G Rickey Ricketts, 6-2/Sr; G/F Joseph Martin, 6-4/Jr. (JC transfer); F Andre Matthews, 6-7/Sr. (4.0 rpg, 41.6 FG%); F Chris Collins, 6-8/Jr.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Normal, Ala.

Home court: T.M. Elmore Gym (6,000). Website: www.aamu.edu/PR/sports/athletics.htm

6. Grambling State

Outlook: After residing in the bottom half of the standings the last few years, Larry Wright's Tigers finished tied for fourth during the regular season before bowing out in the first round of the SWAC Tournament. If Grambling is to continue its ascent, it must do it without versatile forward Paul Haynes, who departed. The cupboard isn't bare, however, as Brion Rush, the league's leading returning scorer, and Maurice Searight, the league's leader in assist/turnover ratio a year ago, return. Freshmen Andre Ratliff and Marcus Watson also are expected to contribute.

Coach: Larry Wright (41-103, 5 years). Projected starters: G Maurice Searight, 6-2/Jr. (5.1 rpg, 7.0 apg, 44.1 FG%); G Brion Rush, 6-2/Jr. (19.3 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 3.1 apg, 41.3 FG%, 37.9 3P%, 75.6 FT%); G Ron Ellis, 6-2/Sr. (41.3 FG%, 40.2 3P%); F Anthony Williams, 6-8/So. (42.3 FG%); F/C Larry Haygood, 6-10/Sr. (46.0 FG%, 45.2 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 1989. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Grambling, La.

Home court: Memorial Gym (4,000). Website: www.gram.edu/sports

7. Jackson State

Outlook: Guard Antonio Williams-Parker is the lone returnee among Jackson State's top four scorers from last year's team, which posted nice nonconference wins over South Alabama and Montana. Coach Tevester Anderson, a noted recruiter while an assistant coach at Georgia and Auburn, wanted to upgrade the talent level on his team by bringing in more athletic players to fit his system. He did just that, and five recruits are

expected to contribute right away. The headliner is point guard Charlie White, a former Mr. Mississippi as a junior.

Coach: Tevester Anderson (12-17, 1 year; 115-69 overall, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2). Projected starters: G Dakari Wallace 6-0/Jr.; G Antonio Williams-Parker, 6-0/Sr. (70.3 FT%); G/F Darius Parker 6-3/So.; F Ernest Hassell 6-6/Sr. (75.8 FT%); C Kelly Ross, 6-8/Sr. (4.7 rpg, 40.1 FG%, 38.1 3P%).

Last regular-season title: 1996 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: 2000.

Site: Jackson, Miss.

Home court: Williams Athletics and Assembly

Center (8,000).

Website: www.jsums.edu

8. Prairie View

Outlook: Prairie View has more new players than any other team in the league, and several must contribute right away. Jerry Francis is promising an uptempo style of play. The biggest news this summer was 6-10 forward Tyrone Nelson's decision to transfer to New Mexico State. Nelson averaged 15.1 points and 8.4 rebounds in garnering SWAC freshman of the year honors.

Coach: Jerry Francis (24-32, 2 years).

Coach: Jerry Francis (24-32, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Jared Ellison, 5-10/So.; G Adrian Simmons, 6-4/Sr.; G/F Phillip Scott, 6-3/Jr. (JC transfer); F Anthony Oha, 6-7/Jr. (JC transfer); C Timir Patel, 6-10/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 1998. Site: Prairie View, Texas.

Home court: Nicks Arena (5,000). Website: www.pvamu.edu/sports

9. Alcorn State

Outlook: In his second season, Samuel West plans to use the same uptempo system as last year and rotate several players, though his bench won't be nearly as deep. Alleo Frazier, who redshirted last season, is expected to fill the point guard spot. The return of Rhau-Chavis Landfair, a defensive-minded center who sat out last season, also should provide a big boost.

Coach: Samuel West (11-18 overall, 1 year). Projected starters: G Alleo Frazier, 5-6/So. (red-shirt); G Delvin Thompson, 6-1/So. (redshirt); G Almaad Jackson, 6-9/So. (43.5 FG%, 77.8 FT%); F Juan Wyatt, 6-8/So. (43.9 FG%); C Rhau-Chavis Landfair, 6-10/Sr. (redshirt).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Lorman, Miss.

Home court: Davey L. Whitney Complex (7,000). Website: alcornsports.com

10. Arkansas-Pine Bluff

Outlook: The bad news for the talent-strapped Golden Lions, who won just one game last season, is that coach Van Holt lost his top three scorers. The good news is he and his staff brought in one of the school's most talented signing classes. As many as four newcomers could start. Two high school signees—V'Angelo Smith and William Byrd—and JC signees Martise Coleman and Tamarius Brown should log heavy minutes. Coach: Van Holt (5-50, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Martise Coleman, 5-10/Jr. (JC transfer); G Tamarius Brown, 6-1/Jr. (JC transfer); G/F William Byrd, 6-6/Fr.; F Julian Harris, 6-7/Fr.; C Jarvis Gunter, 6-10/So.

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: 1967.

Site: Pine Bluff, Ark.

Home court: HYPER Complex (8,000). Website: www.uapb.edu/athletics

Big South

Rank 30

By Michael Bradley, free-lance writer

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

	TO 1 I MILLION			
Po	s. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Whit Holcomb-Faye, Radford	6-2	170	Jr.
G	Larry Blair, Liberty	6-1	185	So.
G	Jakob Sigurdarson, Birm South	6-4	185	Sr.
F	Kurtis Rice, Charleston South.	6-4	205	Sr.
F	Danny Gathings, High Point	6-6	205	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Danny Gathings, F, High Point

So it's a little redundant to give this to Gathings after he won the award last year. But he's easily the dominant player in the league. The senior does just about everything for High Point—he even averaged 1.6 steals per game. Gathings is difficult to stop close to the basket and rebounds with abandon. If he could improve his free throw shooting (68.6 percent), he would probably win the Big South scoring title.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR
Jean-Baptiste Bah, G, Birmingham-Southern

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
Birmingham-Southern	1 12	4	20	7
Liberty*	12	4	18	15
High Point	10	6	19	11
Winthrop	10	6	16	12
Coastal Carolina	8	8	14	15
Radford	7	9	12	16
UNC Asheville	6	10	9	20
VMI	4	12	6	22
Charleston Southern	3	13	6	22

* Lost to Saint Joseph's in NCAA East Rutherford Region first round.

1. Birmingham-Southern

Outlook: An NCAA rule change gives
Birmingham-Southern full-fledged membership in
the Big South one year early. To celebrate, the
Panthers will battle High Point for league honors.
The return of point guard Jakob Sigurdarson, 6-11
Shema Mbyirukira, forward Sredrick Powe and
wing James Collins is a good nucleus. Look for 69 William & Mary transfer Thomas Viglianco to
provide interior heft, and 6-1 freshman JeanBaptiste Bah to get extended work at the point. As
usual, the Panthers will play good defense and
execute the fundamentals.

Coach: Duane Reboul (367-101, 15 years; 53-29, 3 years in Division I).

Projected starters: G Jakob Sigurdarson, 6-4/Sr. (14.7 ppg, 3.3 apg, 49.8 FG%, 86.6 FT%, 48.5 3P%); G James Collins, 6-2/Jr. (10.5 ppg,



52.0 FG%, 49.4 3P%); F Sredrick Powe, 6-7/Sr. (50.7 FG%); F/C Thomas Viglianco, 6-9/Jr. (transfer/William & Mary); C Shema Mbyirukira, 6-11/Sr. (11.0 ppg, 5.7 rpg, 2.1 bpg, 57.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004 (tie). Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Birmingham, Ala.

Home court: Bill Battle Coliseum (2,000).

Website: www.bscsports.net

2. High Point

Outlook: In what is generally a guards' league, the Panthers will continue to inflict most of their punishment inside. A pair of 6-6 forwards, Danny Gathings and Jerry Echenique, form the conference's top interior tandem. Look for Gathings to continue imposing his will around the basket while working to become more of a perimeter threat. The hope is that JC newcomer Akeem Scott will provide stability at point guard. Junior Mark Wilson, a North Texas transfer, will be a factor when he becomes eligible after fall semester. Coach: Bart Lundy (19-11, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Akeem Scott, 6-0/Jr. (JC transfer); G Zione White, 6-3/Sr. (13.7 ppg, 40.2 FG%); F Danny Gathings, 6-6/Sr. (15.8 ppg, 8.0 rpg, 53.1 FG%, 41.9 3P%); F Patrick Hilliman, 6-9/Sr. (62.7 FG%); C Jerry Echenique, 6-6/Sr. (11.4 ppg, 6.1 rpg, 47.5 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: High Point, N.C.

Home court: Millis Center (2,565). Website: www.highpointpanthers.com

3. Liberty

Outlook: Only two starters return from the Flames' 2004 NCAA Tournament team, but good defense and better offensive efficiency should keep them competitive. Sophomore guard Larry Blair had accuracy problems last year, but he has big-numbers potential. David Dees is a wing with a good long-range stroke. Brian Woodson is the defensive stopper of a strong perimeter contingent. The frontcourt will feature rebounder Leo Lightbourne and rugged forward Glyn Turner. Coach: Randy Dunton (43-47, 3 years; 75-71 overall, 5 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1) Projected starters: G Brian Woodson, 6-3/Sr. (4.7 apg. 4.0 rpg); G Larry Blair, 6-1/So. (13.2

ppg); G/F David Dees, 6-5/So. (10.5 ppg, 44.8 FG%, 82.6 FT%, 37.6 3P%); F Leo Lightbourne, 6-8/Sr. (45.9 FG%); F Rell Porter, 6-7/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 1998 (tie). Last time didn't make NCAA field: 2003.

Site: Lynchburg, Va.

Home court: Vines Center (9,000). Website: www.libertyflames.com

4. Radford

Outlook: The Highlanders do have players other than Whit Holcomb-Faye, although it doesn't always seem that way. This year, the high-scoring junior will take over at point guard, where he'll have to improve his shot selection while keeping everyone else involved. The move should yield good results. Sliding in next to Holcomb-Faye are senior Olumuyiwa Popoola, a good outside threat, and freshman Branden Smith. Sophomore Chris Oliver, a potential inside force, returns to the front-court with wide-bodied power forward Reggie McIntyre.

Coach: Byron Samuels (22-36, 2 years; 39-72 overall, 4 years).

Projected starters: G Whit Holcomb-Faye, 6-2/Jr. (17.5 ppg, 4.1 apg); G Olumuyiwa Popoola, 6-3/Sr. (43.3 FG%, 44.1 3P%); G Branden Smith, 6-3/Fr.; F Chris Oliver, 6-7/So. (4.3 rpg, 49.3 FG%); F Reggie McIntyre, 6-5/So. (44.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1998. Last NCAA appearance: 1998. Site: Radford, Va.

Home court: Donald N. Dedmon Center (5,000). **Website:** www.radford.edu/Athletics

5. North Carolina Asheville

Outlook: The Bulldogs return everyone from a team that made a surprising run to the conference tournament semifinals. But to keep their momentum, those returnees must rebound better, shoot more accurately and stop opponents from scoring at will, particularly from behind the arc. Point guard K.J. Garland, a strong perimeter threat, runs the show and does not give the ball away, but the team needs better shooting from versatile forward Bryan McCullough.

Coach: Eddie Biedenbach (111-121, 8 years; 140-172 overall, 11 years; NCAA Tournament 1-1). Projected starters: G K.J. Garland, 6-1/So. (41.9 FG%, 35.6 3P%); G/F Oliver Holmes, 6-6/Jr. (4.8 rpg, 43.1 FG%); F Bryan McCullough, 6-6/Sr. (10.0 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 3.5 apg, 75.0 FT%); F Chad Mohn, 6-8/Jr. (5.0 rpg, 40.8 FG%, 84.4 FT%); F/C Joseph Barber, 6-9/Sr. (4.8 rpg, 47.1 FG%, 76.5 FT%, 40.9 3P%).

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Asheville, N.C.

Home court: Justice Center (1,100). Website: www.unca.edu/athletics

6. Winthrop

Outlook: The big news during the offseason was the selection of 6-10 sophomore Craig Bradshaw to play for New Zealand's Olympic team. That kind of international competition could be invaluable to a player the Eagles, who lose their top two scorers, need to step up big. If Bradshaw can't help fill the scoring void, James Shuler, a spotty shooting forward, and inconsistent Torrell Martin will have to become the primary offensive threats.

Coach: Gregg Marshall (115-64, 6 years; NCAA Tournament 0-4).

Projected starters: G Brandon Key, 6-1/Sr. (44.4 FG%, 38.2 3PT%); G Torrell Martin, 6-5/So.; F James Shuler, 6-6/Jr. (3.8 apg, 79.8 FT%);

F Phillip Williams, 6-8/So. (56.5 FG%, 81.3 FT%); C Billy Houston, 6-8/Jr. (4.0 rpg, 45.2 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2003. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Rock Hill, S.C.

Home court: Winthrop Coliseum (6,100). Website: www.winthropeagles.com

7. Coastal Carolina

Outlook: The MVP of this year's team could be the trainer, whose job will be to keep a thin rotation on the court. The Chanticleers probably will go only seven deep, and that depends on the emergence of freshman guard Jack Leasure, a highly regarded shooter, and sophomore big man Adrian Gross. Point guard Alvin Green is a good penetrator and distributor who can hit the occasional jumper, and backcourt mate Pele Paelay is a slashing, athletic player. In the frontcourt, Moses Sonko is undersized but finishes well close to the hoop.

Coach: Pete Strickland (60-108, 6 years). Projected starters: G Alvin Green, 5-9/Sr. (7.1 ppg, 3.7 apg, 41.8 FG%, 37.9 3P%); G Jack Leasure, 6-3/Fr.; G Pete Paelay, 6-4/Jr. (40.6 3P%); F Moses Sonko, 6-5/So. (48.6 FG%); F Clint Nagel, 6-7/Sr. (4.3 rpg, 49.4 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1993. Last NCAA appearance: 1993.

Site: Conway, S.C.

Home court: Kimbel Arena (1,037). Website: www.goccusports.com

8. Virginia Military Institute

Outlook: Five key players missed a total of 44 games last year, producing 10 different starting lineups and leading to the Keydets' turnovers and defense problems. Coach Bart Bellairs expects more continuity, but progress from a 6-22 season could come slowly since last year's leading scorer, Radee Skipworth, is gone and no one else averaged in double figures.

Coach: Bart Bellairs (107-173, 10 years). Projected starters: G Matt Coward, 5-10/So. (3.1 apg); G Levar Joseph, 6-2/Jr. (46.4 FG%, 42.1 3P%); F Matt Murrer, 6-7/So. (4.1 rpg, 58.2 FG%); F Reggie Williams, 6-5/Fr.; C Tim Allmond, 6-9/Sr. (4.5 rpg, 44.8 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1997 (Southern). Last NCAA appearance: 1977.

Site: Lexington, Va.

Home court: Cameron Hall (5,800). Website: www.vmikeydets.com

9. Charleston Southern

Outlook: Kurtis Rice needs help. The senior forward can't do all the scoring, even though that was the case much of last year. Rice is effective in the paint, a 6-5 slasher who plays taller than his size. Coach Jim Platt hopes scoring help comes from freshman forward VJ Fails and 6-6 swingman Trent Drafts, who had his moments last year, mostly from mid-range. Center Nathan Ball also has potential to score close to the hoop.

Coach: Jim Platt (42-72, 4 years; 98-131 overall, 8 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Terrell Brown, 5-9/Jr.; G Thomas Harrison, 6-1/Jr. (75.0 FT%); F Kurtis Rice, 6-5/Sr. (13.1 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 52.8 FG%); F Trent Drafts, 6-7/Sr. (43.7 FG%); C Nathan Ball, 6-9/Sr. (4.1 rpg, 52.1 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1997. Last NCAA appearance: 1997. Site: Charleston, S.C.

Home court: CSU Fieldhouse (1,500). Website: www.csusports.com

MEAC Rank 31

By Luciana Chavez, News & Observer (Raleigh, N.C.)

PRESERSON ALL-CONFERENCE

FIRST TEAM

Pos	. Name, school	Ht.	Wt.	Class
G	Chakowby Hicks, Norfolk State	6-4	185	Sr.
F	Brian Mason, South Carolina St.	6-6	210	So.
F	Thurman Zimmerman, S.C. St.	6-5	230	Sr.
G/F	Devin Green, Hampton	6-7	205	Sr.
F/C	James Wilkinson, Howard	6-9	200	Sr.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Thurman Zimmerman, F, South Carolina State

Zimmerman has been a dominant player in the MEAC since he arrived from Temple. Last season he ranked in the top five in three MEAC categories—rebounds (first), points (third) and field goal percentage (fifth). Now the defending conference player of the year and an AP All-American honorable mention, he will work to claim what the Bulldogs thought they had a handle on last season: the conference's NCAA bid.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR Glen Elliott, F, Florida A&M

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Confe	rence	Ove	erall
	W	L	W	L
S. Carolina State	14	4	18	11
Coppin State	14	4	18	14
Delaware State	11	7	13	15
Hampton	11	7	13	17
Florida A&M*	10	8	15	17
Norfolk State	10	8	12	17
Morgan State	9	9	11	16
Bethune-Cookman	7	11	8	21
MdEastern Shore	6	12	8	21
Howard	4	14	6	22
North Carolina A&T	3	15	3	25

1. South Carolina State*

Outlook: The Bulldogs can feel confident in bringing back all five starters. Thurman Zimmerman, the MEAC's 2003-04 player of the year, and Brian Mason, the freshman of the year, lead that group. Add JC center Dwight Dean, and coach Ben Betts easily can pound the ball inside.

Coach: Ben Betts (18-11 overall, 1 year). Projected starters: G Shawn Wiggins, 6-3/Sr. (11.0 ppg); G Demeco Heath, 6-3/Sr. (4.7 rpg); G Dimitri Evans, 6-2/Sr. (79.2 FT%); F Thurman Zimmerman, 6-5/Sr. (18.8 ppg, 8.4 rpg); F Brian Mason, 6-6/So. (13.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 41.9 3P%). Last regular-season title: 2004.

Last NCAA appearance: 2003.

Site: Orangeburg, S.C.

Home court: Smith-Hammond Center (3,200).
Website: www.scsusports.com

2. Coppin State

Outlook: CSC won 10 of 11 down the stretch, and the team still packs superior scoring defense. The challenge begins with a killer schedule that includes Texas and Oklahoma. Nicholas King will be counted on to score more without Jimmy Boykin. Coach: Ron Mitchell (304-228 overall, 18 years; NCAA Tournament 1-3).

Projected starters: G West Otis 6-0/So.; G Raheem Scott 6-2/Jr. (38.8 3P%); G/F Nicholas King 6-7/Jr.

(10.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg); F/C Chad Yates 6-9/Sr. (4.0 rpg); F/C Henry Colter 6-11/Sr. (44.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2004. Last NCAA appearance: 1997.

Site: Baltimore.

Home court: Coppin Center (1,720). Website: www.coppin.edu/athletics

3. Delaware State

Outlook: The Hornets lose three starters but replace them with players who gained experience last year. Chief among newcomers is 6-10 Reggie Rizer. The halfcourt defense will keep scores low.

Coach: Greg Jackson (57-45, 4 years; 223-132 overall, 13 years).

Projected starters: G Jahsha Bluntt, 6-5/So. (42.2 FG%, 79.4 FT%, 35.8 3P%); G Aaron Williams, 6-2/Sr. (3.0 rpg, 45.1 FG%, 75.0 FT%, 40.0 3P%); F Terrance Hunter, 6-7/Sr. (12.1 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 49.2 FG%, 75.2 FT%); F Carlos Hawkins, 6-6/Sr. (51.6 FG%); F Troy Roundtree, 6-5/So. (55.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Dover, Del. Home court: Memorial Hall (3,000).

Website: www.dsc.edu/athletics

4. Florida A&M

Outlook: After a slow start last season, FAMU reached the NCAA tourney and beat Lehigh in the opening game. The team is deep inside with four seniors 6-7 or taller. **Coach:** Mike Gillespie (41-38. 3 years; 67-66 overall,

5 years; 1-1 in NCAA Tournament). **Projected starters:** G Tony Tate, 5-11/Sr. (78.4 FT%); G Jonathan Kelly, 6-6/Jr. (47.5 FG%); F Michael Ayodele, 6-7/Sr. (47.5 FG%, 66.7 FT%); F Richard Russell, 6-6, Jr. (40.8 FG%); C Michael Harper, 6-9/Sr.

(4.8 rpg, 49.8 FG%, 72.5 FT%). **Last regular-season title:** 2004.

Last time didn't make NCAA Tournament: 2003. Site: Tallahassee, Fla.

Home court: Gaither Gymnasium (3,350). Website: www.thefamurattlers.com

5. Hampton

Outlook: Hampton has seven new faces but might have an ace in Brandon Streeter, an athletic 6-7, 210 forward who can score. Returning starters Devin Green and Jeff Granger totaled 30-plus ppg last year. Coach: Bobby Collins (32-28 overall, 2 years).

Projected starters: G Jeff Granger, 6-3/Jr. (15.0 ppg, 82.0 FT%); G/F Devin Green, 6-7/Sr. (15.2 ppg, 7.6 rpg); G/F Junior Pehoua, 6-5/So. (41.7 3P%); F Brandon Streeter, 6-7/So; C Bruce Brown, 6-11/Sr. (4.6 rpg. 61.6 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 2002. Last NCAA appearance: 2002.

Site: Hampton, Va.

Home court: Convocation Center (7,200). Website: www.hamptonu.edu/athletics

6. Norfolk State

Outlook: Norfolk State is the beneficiary of fallout from St. Bonaventure, with Calvin Brown joining the Spartans. His size will be a nice addition to coach Dwight Freeman's tough man-to-man defense. Coach: Dwight Freeman (26-32, 2 years; 72-97

overall, 7 years). **Projected starters:** G Chakowby Hicks, 6-4/Sr. (15.9 ppg, 5.9 rpg); G/F Ryan Grier, 6-4/Sr. (12.7 ppg, 39.6 3P%); F Tynell Dunkley, 6-7/So.; F/C Karandick Ogunride, 6-8/Jr. (7.1 rpg); F/C Calvin Brown 6-8/So. (transfer/St. Bonaventure).

Last regular-season title: None. Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Norfolk, Va.

Home court: Echols Hall (7,000). Website: www.nsu.edu/athletics

7. Morgan State

Outlook: The Bears' tallest regular could be 6-4, but they lost just one starter. Senior Aaron Andrews received a fifth year of eligibility. Freshman Aaron Lollar will work in at the point with Christopher Grant. Coach: Butch Beard (21-63, 3 years; 62-129, 7 years; NCAA Tournament 0-1).

Projected starters: G Christopher Grant, 6-4/Sr. (4.1 rpg); G Ronald Timus, 6-4/Jr. (41.4 FG%); G Joseph McLean, 6-2/So.; (43.3 3P%); G/F Sam Brand, 6-3/Sr. (10.2 ppg); F Aaron Andrews, 6-5/Sr. (61.7 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1976. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Baltimore.

Home court: Hill Field House (4,500). Website: www.morganstatebears.com

8. Howard

Outlook: Two of the three top scorers return, including first-team preseason pick James Wilkinson. Point guard Louis Ford must find ways to win close games. Coach: Frankie Allen (47-70, 4 years; 218-271 23 years; NCAA Tournament 0-2).

Projected starters: F/C James Wilkinson, 6-9/Sr. (13.0 ppg, 6.1 rpg); G Louis Ford, 5-6/Jr. (5.0 apg); G/F Darryl Hudson, 6-4/So.; C Daniel Wright, 6-10/Jr.; F Bilal Russell, 6-5/Jr.

Last regular-season title: 1992. Last NCAA appearance: 1992.

Site: Washington, D.C.

Home court: Burr Gymnasium (2,700).

Website: www.bisonmania.com

9. Bethune-Cookman

Outlook: Six new bodies make a full roster, and all six can score. Jordan Carrier and Antonio Webb each averaged over 18 points per game in high school. Coach: Cliff Reed (22-47, 3 years).

Projected starters: G Anis Taylor, 6-1/Jr.; G O'Neal Carter, 6-1/Jr.; F Diondre Larmond, 6-6/Sr. (10.7 ppg, 4.0 rpg); F/C Michael Williams, 6-7/Jr. (55.3 FG%);

F Dajuan Clayton, 6-6/Sr. (76.2 FT%). **Last regular-season title:** None.

Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Daytona Beach, Fla.

Home court: Moore Gymnasium (3,000). Website: www.cookman.edu/athletics

10. Maryland-Eastern Shore

Outlook: New coach Lawrence Lessette will attempt a disciplined approach to a fast-break offense. Aly Samabaly will orchestrate it from the point. Coach: Lawrence Lessette (1st year).

Projected starters: G Aly Samabaly (transfer/ Duquesne); G Carl Pruitt, 6-6/Jr.; F Jareem Dowling, 6-6/Sr.; C Tim Parham, 6-9/Sr. (50.0 FG%); C Qavaotstaraj Waddell, 6-11/Fr.

Last regular-season title: 1974. Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Princess Anne, Md.

Home court: Hytche Athletic Center (5,500).

Website: www.umes.edu/athletics 11. North Carolina A&T

Outlook: All-MEAC rookie Sean Booker and Steven Koger are the backbone of what coach Jerry Eaves is trying to construct: a fundamental team with solid defense. Coach: Jerry Eaves (3-25, 1 year).

Projected starters: G Sean Booker, 6-3/So. (14.5 ppg); G Rechodd Carter, 6-0/Sr. (41.7 3P%); F Greg Roberts, 6-5/So. (43.0 FG%).; F Jeffery Alvis, 6-7/Sr.; F Greg Davis, 6-8/Sr. (40.9 FG%).

Last regular-season title: 1988. Last NCAA appearance: 1995. Site: Greensboro, N.C.

Home court: Corbett Center (3,200). Website: www.ncat.edu/~athletic

Independents

2003-04 STANDINGS

	Ove	erall
	W	L
IUPU-Fort Wayne	3	25
Savannah State	5	23
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	15	11
Texas-Pan American	14	14

IUPU-Fort Wayne

Outlook: David Simon, who tore his ACL the last day of the NBA's predraft camp, is a welcome returnee for a team that finished 3-25 and lost three starters. The Mastodons will run a more perimeter-oriented offense with Beau Bauer, last year's starter at point guard, moving to shooting guard. Two JC transfers, guard Ryan Baumgartner and forward Quintin Butler, could help right away.

Coach: Doug Noll (19-67, 3 years in Division I).

Key player: David Simon, 6-10/Sr. (18.0 ppg, 9.8

rpg, 58.4 FG%). Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Fort Wayne, Ind.

Home court: Memorial Coliseum (11,000).

Website: www.ipfw.edu/athletics

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

Outlook: Leading scorer Travis Bailey (14.2 ppg) is back for the improving Islanders, as is top rebounder Corey Lamkin. Hard-working outside shooter Seth Engelken showed promise as a freshman, and fifth-year senior Thomas Bailey has the range to knock down 3s at power forward.

Coach: Ronnie Arrow (68-68, 5 years; 182-161 overall, 12 years; NCAA Tournament 1-2).

Key player: Corey Lamkin 6-6/Sr. (10.6 ppg, 8.6 rpg, 58.1 FG%, 75.5 FT%).

Last NCAA appearance: None.

Site: Corpus Christi, Texas.

Home court: Memorial Coliseum (4,000).

Website: www.goislanders.com

Texas-Pan American

Outlook: New coach Robert Davenport will have seven seniors, including the backcourt duo of Eric Montalvo and Sergio Sanchez. Chris Fagan needs to continue his solid play, and JC transfer Aaron Nelson is a physical player who could make an impact.

Coach: Robert Davenport (1st year). Key player: G Sergio Sanchez, 5-10/Sr. (12.9

ppg, 4.5 apg, 86.6 FT%, 37.1 3P%).

Last NCAA appearance: None. Site: Edinburgh, Texas.

Home court: UTPA Fieldhouse (4,000). Website: www.panam.edu/athletics

Savannah State

Outlook: Guard Jamal Daniels, the only player to average double digits in points last season, is one bright spot; another is sophomore Jasmin Lowe. Sherard Reddick, the team's leading rebounder, also is one of 12 returning players for the Tigers. Coach: Edward Daniels, Jr. (7-48, 2 years). Key Player: G Jamal Daniels, 6-4/Jr. (12.1 ppg,

4.8 rpg, 45.2 FG%). Last NCAA appearance: None

Site: Savannah, Ga.

Home court: Tiger Arena (5,600). Website: www.savstate.edu

	nerica East		at Arkansas				at Boston University		Georgia St.	D2	Georgia St.	13	at Jacksonville		18 Holiday Classic
AL	BANY		-30 Green Bay Classic				at Albany		at Gardner-Webb	D4	Mercer	J7	Troy		at Boise St.
119	at Sacred Heart	J2 J4	at Vermont	J16 J19		F21 F24	New Hampshire MdBaltimore County		at Campbell		Savannah St. at Tennessee Tech	J9 J11	at Florida Atlantic at Central Florida	J2	Great Falls at Portland
	at Siena	16	Longwood at Boston University				at Maine		at Fla. International		at Florida St.	J14	Belmont	16	Montana
27	The state of the s	19		J26	at Boston University	-			at Florida	13	Stetson	116	Lipscomb	18	Montana St.
30 6	at Lehigh at Army	J12	Northeastern	J29	MdBaltimore County	0.00	antic Coast		at Miami (Fla.)	15	Troy	J20	at Gardner-Webb	J13	at Sacramento St.
8	Long Island	J15	at Stony Brook	F2	Wortheastern		dules are with team ts, pages 24-32.	D4	Gardner-Webb	J9	at Central Florida	J22	at Campbell	J15	at Northern Arizona
11		J19	Maine	F5	at Albany				Campbell	J11	at Florida Atlantic	J26	Jacksonville	J20	Eastern Washington
18		J23 J27	New Hampshire at Albany	F9 F13	at Maine Binghamton	At	lantic Sun		18 Holiday Classic	J14 J16	Lipscomb Belmont	J29 J31	Gardner-Webb Campbell	J22 J25	Portland St. at Utah Valley St.
	at Villanova	J30	Vermont	F17	Hartford		MONT	D30	Colgate at Mercer	J20	at Campbell	F3	at Belmont	129	Weber St.
30	Dartmouth Rocton University	F2	at Binghamton		at Vermont		19 Coaches vs. Cancer	15	at Georgia St.	J22	at Gardner-Webb	F5	at Lipscomb	F3	at Montana St.
2	at New Hampshire	F5	Boston University		at Northeastern	D2	at Middle Tennessee at Troy	19	Stetson	J26	at Stetson	F10		F5	at Montana
8	Northeastern	F9	at Northeastern		Stony Brook	D6	Navy		Jacksonville	J29	Campbell	F12		F10	Northern Arizona
12	Binghamton	F12	State of the Control		RTHEASTERN		at UAB		at Central Florida	J31	Gardner-Webb	F20 F25		F12	Sacramento St. at Portland St.
16	at Maine	F17	at New Hampshire at Maine		20 Marist Classic at Harvard	D18	Chattanooga	J18 J20	Troy Central Florida	F3 F5	at Lipscomb at Belmont		at Georgia St.		at Eastern Washington
19	at MdBalt. County	F24	Binghamton	D1	at Massachusetts	D20	at Tennessee	J23	at Lipscomb	F10	Florida Atlantic		OY		at Weber St.
22	at Vermont Hartford	F27		D4	Wright St.	D30	at Auburn	125	at Belmont	F12	Central Florida		-22 Paradise Jam		NTANA
29	at Boston University	M	AINE	D6	at Connecticut	J3 J5	at Campbell at Gardner-Webb	J29	Lipscomb	F18	at Troy		Piedmont College	N21	at Gonzaga
2	Stony Brook		at Boston College	D21	at Stony Brook	18	Mercer	J31	Belmont	F25	at Georgia St.	D2	Belmont		at Western Kentucky
5	New Hampshire		Bethune-Cookman		at Holy Cross	J10	Georgia St.	F6	at Troy	-	at Mercer	D4	Lipscomb		CS Northridge
9	at Binghamton	N26		J2	Binghamton	J14	at Stetson		at Jacksonville	1000	SCOMB	D11		D2	Southern Utah
12	Maine	N29		J5		J16	at Jacksonville	F12	at Stetson		at Minnesota Savannah St.	D15		D4 D9	Santa Clara at SE Missouri St.
16	Vermont	D4 D9	at Harvard at MdBalt. County	J8 J12	at Hartford	J21	Lipscomb	F17	Georgia St. Mercer		Fisk		-29 Lobo Invitational		at Missouri
19	MdBaltimore County at Stony Brook	D11		115	Md Daltimore County	J23 J25	Central Florida	F24	at Campbell	D4	at Troy	15	at Jacksonville		Montana Tech
	at Stony Brook at Northeastern	D19		J19	Boston University	J25 J29	Florida Atlantic at Central Florida		at Gardner-Webb	D6	at Savannah St.	J7	at Stetson		at UC Santa Barbara
	NGHAMTON	D23	IPFW	J22	at Maine	J31	at Florida Atlantic		RDNER-WEBB	D11	Nicholls St.	J10	Gardner-Webb	D20	at San Francisco
	-26 Preseason NIT	D30		J26	Stony Brook	F3	Stetson	N20	North Greenville		Rust College	J13	Georgia St.		at Stanford
	-20 Blue & Gold Classic	12	Stony Brook	J30	at Binghamton	F5	Jacksonville		East Carolina	D20	at Arkansas	J16		D30	Eastern Michigan
27	Hofstra	J6 J8	at Binghamton at Vermont	F2 F5	at Marmant	F11	at Georgia St.	N27	at Arkansas	J3 J5	at Gardner-Webb at Campbell	J18 J21	at Florida Atlantic Mercer	J2 J6	Rocky MtBillings at Idaho St.
30		J13	at New Hampshire	F9	Hartford		at Mercer	D2 D4	at Central Florida at Florida Atlantic	18	Georgia St.	J24		18	at Weber St.
13	at Brown	J16	Albany		at Md Palt County	F17	Gardner-Webb	D8	at Georgia	J10	Mercer	J26	Control of the contro	J15	Montana St.
	at Syracuse	119	at Hartford	F16	Maine	F19 F22	Campbell at Lipscomb		Kenvon	114	at Jacksonville	J31	at Mercer	J20	Northern Arizona
	at Vermont -28 Fla. Intl. Tourn.	J23	Northeastern	F19	at Boston University		Troy	D20	at UNLV	J16	at Stetson	F4	Central Florida	J22	Sacramento St.
2	at Northeastern	J27	MdBaltimore County		New Hampshire		MPBELL	D28	at Colorado	J21	at Belmont	F6	Florida Atlantic	J27	at Portland St.
6	Maine	J30	at Stony Brook	F27	Albany		at Furman	13	Lipscomb	J23	Florida Atlantic	F10		129	at Eastern Washington
9	at Boston University	F2	at Boston		ONY BROOK		William & Mary	J5	Belmont	J25	Central Florida	F12		F3	Weber St.
12	at Albany	F6 F9	Binghamton New Hamashire		at Utah		at N.C. State	J7	Campbell	J29	at Florida Atlantic	F18 F20		F5 F13	Idaho St. at Montana St.
16	New Hampshire	F12	New Hampshire at Albany		Army at Columbia	N30	at UNC Wilmington	J10	at Troy at Mercer	J31 F3	at Central Florida Jacksonville	F24		F14	at Northern Arizona
19	Stony Brook	F16	The second secon		at St. John's	D11	at North Carolina A&T	J15	at Georgia St.	FS	Stetson	F26		F17	at Sacramento St.
22	at MdBalt. County	F19		D3	Lehigh		at Florida Atlantic	J20	Stetson	F11	at Mercer	101		F24	Eastern Washington
27 30	Vermont Northeastern	F24	at Boston University	D8	at Rhode Island	D16 D23	at Central Florida at Tennessee	J22	Jacksonville	F13	at Georgia St.		lantic 10	F26	Portland St.
2	Hartford	F27	Vermont	D11	at Navy	D29	at Kentucky	J29	at Stetson	F17	Campbell		edules are with team	MC	NTANA ST.
6	at Maine		DBALTIMORE CO.		Northeastern	13	Belmont	J31	at Jacksonville	F19	Gardner-Webb		orts, pages 94-99.		at Washington St.
9	Albany		Navy		Hofstra	15	Lipscomb	F3	Georgia St.	F22 F24	Belmont		g East		at San Jose St.
13	at New Hampshire	N23 N27		D30	Wagner at Maine	17	at Gardner-Webb	F5 F8	Mercer at Campbell		RCER		edules are with team	N27 D2	SMU Utah Valley St.
16	MdBaltimore County	D1	at MdEastern Shore	15	at MdBalt. County	J13	at Mercer	F10	Troy	4000	Albany St.	repo	orts, pages 36-43.	D4	Wyoming
19 24		D4	Towson	18	New Hampshire	J15 J20	at Georgia St. Jacksonville	F17	at Belmont		at Maryland	Bi	g Sky		at Billings
27		D9	Maine	J12	Vermont	J22	Stetson		at Lipscomb	N29	Georgia Southern	E.	WASHINGTON	D7	at Colorado St.
21	STON UNIVERSITY	D11	at Duquesne	J15	Hartford	124	at Troy	F24	Central Florida	D2	at Stetson	N20	at Wichita St.	D11	Wisconsin-Green Bay
	Holy Cross	D18			at Binghamton	J29	at Jacksonville		Florida Atlantic	D4	at Jacksonville		at Cal Poly		MSU-Northern
	Fordham	D21		J22	Boston University	J31	at Stetson		ORGIA ST.		Fort Valley St.	N28			Northern Colorado
27	at Youngstown St.	D29	at Delaware New Hampshire	J26 J30	at Northeastern Maine	F3	Mercer		21 Jim Thorpe Classic		at Ohio St. at Savannah St.	D1 D5	Cascade at Washington		San Jose St. at Utah Valley St.
30		15	Stony Brook	F2	at Albany	F5	Georgia St.		at Kentucky	13	Florida Atlantic	D10		D29	Montana Tech
4	at New Hampshire	19	at Hartford	F5	Md Daltimore County	F8	Gardner-Webb	N29 D2	Louisiana-Lafayette at Jacksonville	15	Central Florida	D13		12	at Nebraska
7	at Harvard at Boston College	J13	at Boston University	F9	at Vermont	F12 F17	Troy at Lipscomb	D4	at Stetson	J8	at Belmont	D15		J6	at Weber St.
	at Michigan	J15	at Northeastern		at Hartford	F19	at Belmont	D7	Delta St.	J10	at Lipscomb	D18		J8	at Idaho St.
	Canisius	J19	Albany		at Boston University	F24	Florida Atlantic	D11	at Charlotte	J13	Campbell	D21			at Montana
	at Massachusetts	J22			Binghamton		Central Florida		at Louisiana-Lafayette	J15	Gardner-Webb		-30 Fiesta Bowl Classic	J20	Sacramento St.
2	at Albany	J27 J29	at Maine		Albany at New Hampshire		NTRAL FLORIDA	12	at Texas Tech	J21 J23	at Troy	J2 J6	Idaho Northern Arizona	J22 J27	Northern Arizona at Eastern Washington
6	Hartford	F2	at New Hampshire Vermont				21 Top of World Classic	13	Central Florida Florida Atlantic	J23 J28	at Georgia St. Georgia St.	18	Northern Arizona Sacramento St.	129	at Eastern Washington
9	Binghamton	F5	at Stony Brook		RMONT at Kansas		Puerto Rico Mayaguez	J5 J8	at Lipscomb	J20 J31	Troy	J15		F3	Idaho St.
13	MdBaltimore County	F9	Boston University		Marist	D2	Gardner-Webb	J10	at Belmont	B	at Campbell	J20		F5	Weber St.
116	at Vermont at Northeastern	F12	The state of the s	N28	lona	D4	UMKC	J13	at Troy	F5	at Gardner-Webb	J22			Montana
	at Stony Brook	F16		D4	at American		Campbell at UMKC	J15	Campbell	F8	Savannah St.	J27		F17	at Northern Arizona
126		F19			Binghamton		29 Central Fla. Classic	J17	Gardner-Webb	F11	Lipscomb	J29	Montana	F19	at Sacramento St.
129	Albany	F24			at North Carolina	13	at Georgia St.	J23	Mercer	F13	Belmont	F3	at Sacramento St.	F24	Portland St.
2	at Maine	F27		D28	at Siena	15	at Mercer	J26	Troy	F17	Central Florida	F5	at Northern Arizona		Eastern Washington
5	at Hartford	223.0	W HAMPSHIRE	D30 J2	at Holy Cross Hartford	19	Jacksonville	J28	at Mercer	F19	at Florida Atlantic	F12			RTH. ARIZONA
9	at MdBalt. County		at Liberty	15	at Northeastern	JII	Stetson	F3	at Gardner-Webb	F25	Stetson	F17			23 Guardians Classic
	Vermont Stony Brook		Suffolk	18	Maine	J13	Florida Atlantic	F5 F11	at Campbell Belmont	F27	Jacksonville	F19			UC Riverside
16		NZ3		J10	Dartmouth	J16	Troy	F13	Lipscomb	69.00	ETSON	F24 F26			Oral Roberts
	Northeastern Maine	N28	Army Harvard	J12	at Stony Brook	J20	at Florida Atlantic	F17	at Florida Atlantic		Flagler	1	AHO ST.		at New Mexico Lewis & Clark
	at Binghamton	D4	Boston University	J16	Boston University	J23	at Belmont at Lipscomb	F19	at Central Florida	D2	at South Florida Mercer		at Oregon	D4	at UC Davis
_	ARTFORD	D8	at Brown	J19	at New Hampshire	J25 J29	Belmont	F25	Jacksonville	04	Georgia St.	N23		D7	at Texas Tech
	-20 W&M Classic	D12		J22	Albany at Ringhamton	J31	Lipscomb		Stetson	D8	at Florida	N27			Willamette
	Dartmouth	D21		J27 J30	at Binghamton at Hartford	F4	at Troy		CKSONVILLE	D18	at Miami	D1	Montana Tech		at San Diego
	at Brown	D28		F2	at MdBalt. County	F10	at Stetson		North Florida	D23	at Florida St.	D6	Portland	D21	Quinnipiac
06															
011	Long Island Albany	J2	at MdBalt. County	F5	Northeastern	F12 F17	at Jacksonville Mercer		at Florida at Savannah St.	D28	at Colorado St. at Georgia	D8	Idaho Southern Utah	D29-	30 Utah St. Classic at Eastern Washingt

J8	at Portland St.	J29	at Idaho St.			D2	North Carolina A&T		at UCLA		Utah		at Pacific		CS Northridge
J13	Weber St.	F3	at Montana		Control of the Contro	D4	at West Virginia	D4	Sacramento St.	D28	UC Irvine	J20	UC Riverside		Pacific Piccoride
J15 J20	Idaho St. at Montana	F5 F10	at Montana St. Sacramento St.	1,000	SH POINT	D8 D10	Hampton Lees-McRae	D14 D17			Long Beach St.	J22	CS Fullerton at Long Beach St.		at UC Riverside
J22	at Montana St.	F12	Northern Arizona		Southeastern (Fla.) 27 Gr. Alaska Shootout	D23	at Colorado	D21	New Mexico St.	J2 J6	at Pacific at Idaho	J27 J29	at UC Irvine		at CS Fullerton Long Beach St.
J29	at Sacramento St.	F17	at Eastern Washington		North Carolina A&T		29 St. Mary's Tourn.	D28		18	at Utah St.	F3	at UC Santa Barbara		UC Irvine
F3	Portland St.	F19	Bracket Buster	D2	Greensboro College	15	at Birmingham So.	D30	at UC Santa Barbara	J13	at UC Santa Barbara	F5	at Cal Poly		Idaho
F5	Eastern Washington	F26	Idaho St.	D4	at Creighton	J8	Coastal Carolina	16	CS Northridge	J17	UC Davis	F10	Pacific		
F10	at Idaho St.	Di.	« Courth	D7	at Michigan	J10	Charleston Southern	18	Pacific	J20	Pacific	F12	CS Northridge		lonial
F12	at Weber St.	_	g South	D11	Furman	J15	at Winthrop	J13	at UC Riverside	122	CS Northridge	F17	at CS Fullerton	-	LAWARE
F14	Montana		RMINGHAM-SO.		Mount St. Mary's	J19	at VMI	J15	at CS Fullerton	J27	at CS Fullerton	F19	at UC Riverside		at Ohio St.
F17	Montana St.		20 Marist Tournament		at Marshall	J22	High Point	J20	Long Beach St.	J29	at UC Riverside	F24	UC Irvine		Mount St. Mary's
F19	Bracket Buster	N27	at Massachusetts Tennessee Wesleyan		at James Madison	J26	at UNC Asheville	J24	at UC Davis	F3	Utah St.	F26	Long Beach St.	D2	at Loyola (Md.)
F26	Sacramento St.	D2	at Indiana St.	J3	Utah Valley St.	J29	Liberty	J27	Utah St. Idaho	F5	Idaho	M4	at Utah St.	D4	at St. Mary's at San Francisco
	RTLAND ST.	D4	at Alabama St.	J5	Liberty Pierrical and Courth and	J31 F5	Birmingham Southern at Charleston So.	J29 F3	at Pacific	F12 F16	at UC Davis		NG BEACH ST.	D8	Drexel
	at Gonzaga		Montreat	J8 J12	Birmingham Southern UNC Asheville	F7	at Coastal Carolina	F5	at CS Northridge	F19	at CS Northridge UC Santa Barbara		at Charlotte		Rider
N24 N27		D20			at Charleston So.	F14	VMI	F10	CS Fullerton	F24	UC Riverside	N23 N27			23 San Juan Shootout
N29		D29-	30 Chattanooga Tourn.	117	at Coastal Carolina	F16	Winthrop	F12	UC Riverside	F26	CS Fullerton	N30		D29	MdBalt. County
D1	at Jackson St.	J5	Radford		at Radford	F19	at Liberty	F17	at Long Beach St.	M3	at Long Beach St.	D4	at Loyola Marymount	J2	American
D4	Portland	J8	at High Point	126	VMI	F23	at High Point	F19	UC Davis	M5	at UC Irvine	D11	Portland	15	at Towson
D7	Evergreen St.	J10	at Liberty	F1	at Liberty	F26	UNC Asheville	F24	at Idaho	CS	FULLERTON		-23 Rainbow Classic	18	at William & Mary
D11	at Ohio St.	J17	UNC Asheville	F5	at UNC Asheville	VM	II.	F26	at Utah St.	N19-	20 C. Conn. St. Tourn.	D28	at UC Santa Barbara	J12	George Mason
D16	Bethune-Cookman	J19	Winthrop	F9	at Birmingham So.	N22	Southern Virginia	M3	UC Santa Barbara	N27	Норе	D30	at Cal Poly	J15	James Madison
D18	Tennessee-Martin	J22	Coastal Carolina Charleston Southern	F12	Coastal Carolina	N28	at Navy		Cal Poly	D4	at Denver	16	Pacific	119	Va. Commonwealth
D21	Warner Pacific	J24 J29	at VMI	F14	Charleston Southern	D1	Old Dominion		RIVERSIDE		at Eastern Washington		CS Northridge	J22	at Hofstra
D29	MdEastern Shore	J31	at Radford	F19	at Winthrop	D4	Virginia Tech		-19 Coaches vs. Cancer	D21	at San Diego St.	J13		J26 J29	at Old Dominion UNC Wilmington
11	Weber St.	F5	Liberty		Radford	D8	at Longwood	N20	Control of the Contro	D23	Denver	J15	at UC Riverside	J31	at George Mason
J6	Sacramento St.	F9	High Point	-	at VMI	D11	Towson	N27	Loyola Marymount	D28	at CS Northridge	J20	at UC Irvine	F2	at James Madison
J8	Northern Arizona	F12	at Winthrop		ERTY	D13	Bluefield College	D4	Cascade	D30	at Pacific	J22	at UC Davis	F5	William & Mary
J15 J20	at Eastern Washington at Weber St.	F14	at UNC Asheville		New Hampshire	D28	at New Orleans at Tulane	D12	****	16	UC Riverside	J27	Idaho	F9	Old Dominion
J22	at Idaho St.	F17	Texas-Pan Am			D31	at Loyola (Md.)	D14 D20		J8 J13	UC Davis	J29 F3	Utah St. at CS Northridge	F12	Towson
J27	Montana	F19	VMI	N27 D1	at Arkansas St. at Western Carolina	18	Charleston Southern	D22		115	Long Beach St. UC Irvine	F5	at Pacific	F16	at Va. Commonwealth
J29	Montana St.	F24	at Charleston So.	D4	Shenandoah	J10	Coastal Carolina	D28		J20	at Utah St.	F10	UC Riverside	F19	Hofstra
F3	at Northern Arizona	F26	at Coastal Carolina	D7	Old Dominion	J15	at UNC Asheville	D30		J22	at Idaho	F12	CS Fullerton	F23	at UNC Wilmington
F5	at Sacramento St.	CH	ARLESTON SO.		at N.C. State	J19	Radford	16	at CS Fullerton	J27	Cal Poly	F17	UC Irvine	F26	at Drexel
F12	Eastern Washington	N19	at Coll. of Charleston		UNC Greensboro	J24	at Liberty	J10	UC Davis	J29	UC Santa Barbara	F21	UC Davis	DR	EXEL
F17	Idaho St.		Voorhees			J26	at High Point	J13	UC Irvine	F3	at UC Riverside	F24	at Utah St.		at Pennsylvania
F19	Bracket Buster		at Notre Dame	D28	at Maryland	J29	Birmingham Southern	J15	Long Beach St.	F7	at UC Davis	F26	at Idaho		at Rider
F24	at Montana St.	D11		D30	at Marist	J31	at Winthrop	J20	at Idaho	F10	at UC Irvine	M3	Cal Poly		at Lafayette
F26	at Montana		Lander	15	at High Point	F5	at Coastal Carolina	J22	at Utah St.	F12	at Long Beach St.	M5	UC Santa Barbara	D4	Saint Joseph's
SA	CRAMENTO ST.		Wofford	J8	at Winthrop	F7	at Charleston So.	J27	UC Santa Barbara	F17	ldaho	PA	CIFIC	DO	at Philadelphia
	at Michigan		at Georgia Tech 29 Central Fla. Classic	J10	Birmingham-Southern		Longwood	J29	Cal Poly	F19	Utah St.	N20		D8	at Delaware
		13	Robert Morris		at Coastal Carolina	F12	UNC Asheville	F3	CS Fullerton	F24	at UC Santa Barbara	N23	The state of the s		Quinnipiac
N27	at Long Beach St.	15	at UNC Asheville	J17	at Charleston So.	F14	at Radford	F5	at UC Davis	F26	at Cal Poly	D4	at Kansas	D18 D21	at Syracuse at Seton Hall
D1	UC Davis	18	at VMI	J22	UNC Asheville	F17	Liberty	F10	at Long Beach St.	M3	Pacific	D7	at UC Davis	D21	Monmouth
D4	at UC Irvine	110	at Radford	J24	VMI	F19	at Birmingham So.	F12	at UC Irvine Utah St.	M5	CS Northridge	D11		15	Old Dominion
D7	San Francisco	115	High Point	J29	at Radford	F23 F26	Winthrop High Point	F19	Idaho		NORTHRIDGE	D18		18	at Hofstra
D11 D17	at Fresno St. at St. Mary's	J17	Liberty	F1 F5	High Point at Birmingham-So.		NTHROP	F24	at Cal Poly	N20 N26	at Oklahoma	D21 D28		J12	at Va. Commonwealth
D20		J22	at Winthrop	F10	Winthrop	-	22 Paradise Jam	F26	at UC Santa Barbara	N30	Western Illinois at Montana	D30	UC Riverside CS Fullerton	J15	William & Mary
D22		J24	at Birmingham So.		Charleston Southern		at South Carolina	M3	CS Northridge	D4	at Arizona St.	12	Cal Poly	J19	at George Mason
D28	at Oregon St.	J27	Coastal Carolina	F14	Coastal Carolina	N27	Weber St.	M5	Pacific	-	at Lafayette	16	at Long Beach St.	122	Towson
D30	Utah Valley St.	J29	UNC Asheville	F17	at VMI	N30	at Providence	UC	SANTA BARBARA	D21	Cal Baptist	J8	at UC Irvine	J26	at UNC Wilmington
J6	at Portland St.	F5	Radford	F19	Radford	D2	Barton	N20		D28	CS Fullerton	J12	Utah St.	J29	James Madison
J8	at Eastern Washington	F7	VMI	F24	at UNC Asheville	D5	Siena	N23	at Wisconsin	D30	UC Riverside	J15	Idaho	J31	at Old Dominion
J13	Idaho St.	F12	at Liberty	UN	C ASHEVILLE	D17	at East Carolina	N27	at San Francisco	J3	UC Santa Barbara	J20	at Cal Poly	F2	at William & Mary
1077.0	Weber St.	F17	at High Point Citadel	N19	at Texas Tech		at Portland St.	D1	at Pepperdine	16	at UC Irvine		at UC Santa Barbara	F5	Hofstra Va Commonwealth
J20	at Montana St.	F21	at Coastal Carolina		at Clemson		at Oregon	D4	San Diego St.	18	at Long Beach St.		at CS Northridge	F9 F12	Va. Commonwealth at James Madison
J22	at Montana	F24	Birmingham Southern		UNC Wilmington	D30	Georgia College & St.		Montana	J13	Idaho	J31	UC Davis		UNC Wilmington
J25 J29	William Jessup Northern Arizona		Winthrop		at Furman	J5	at Coastal Carolina		at San Diego	J15	Utah St.	F3	UC Irvine		Bracket Buster
F3	Eastern Washington		ASTAL CAROLINA		Western Carolina	J8 J10	at UNC Asheville		Long Beach St. UC Irvine	J20 J22	at UC Santa Barbara	F5 F10	Long Beach St. at Idaho	F23	George Mason
F5	Portland St.		at Indiana St.		at Maryland	J15	Radford	16	at Utah St.	J27	at Cal Poly Pacific	F12	at Utah St.		Delaware
F10	at Weber St.		at Evansville		Lenoir-Rhyne Montreat	119	at Birmingham-So.	18	at Idaho	J29	at UC Davis	F16	UC Santa Barbara		at Towson
F12	at Idaho St.	N23	at UNC Greensboro		at Charlotte	122	Charleston Southern	J13	Cal Poly	F3	Long Beach St.	F19	Bracket Buster	GE	ORGE MASON
F17	Montana		at Hawaii		at Michigan St.	J29	at High Point	J15		F5	UC Irvine	F26	CS Northridge	N11-	19 Coaches vs. Cancer
F19	Montana St.	N28			at Michigan	131	VMI	J20	CS Northridge	F10	at Utah St.	M3	at CS Fullerton		Duquesne
F26	at Northern Arizona	D4	Eastern Kentucky	15		F2	Coastal Carolina	122	Pacific	F12	at Idaho	M5	at UC Riverside		Towson
	BER ST.		Coker		Winthrop	F7	UNC Asheville	J27	at UC Riverside	F16	Cal Poly		AH ST.	ne	BB&T Classic
	Utah Valley St.		Jacksonville St.		at High Point	F10	at Liberty	J29	at CS Fullerton	F19	Bracket Buster		-21 Top of World Classic		lona
	Albertson College		UNC Wilmington at Coll, of Charleston	J15	VMI	F12	Birmingham-Southern	F3	Idaho	F26	at Pacific		UC Davis	100-100	at St. Bonaventure
N27			Ohio Northern		at Birmingham So.	F16	at Radford	F5	Utah St.	F28	UC Davis	D1	Brigham Young		at McNeese St.
N29		12	at Tennessee		at Liberty	F19	High Point		at Cal Poly	M3 M5	at UC Riverside at CS Fullerton	D4	Utah		at Morehead St.
D4 D8	at WisGreen Bay Southern Utah	15	Winthrop		Radford		at VMI		UC Davis			D7	at IPFW Wahar St	J5 J8	Va. Commonwealth UNC Wilmington
D11	at Utah St.	18	at Radford		at Charleston So.	F26	at Charleston So.	F17	at Pacific		AHO 21 Boise Invitational		Weber St. at Brigham Young		at Delaware
D18	Elon	J10	at VMI		at Coastal Carolina	Bi	Ten		at CS Northridge		at Gonzaga		at Idaho		at Old Dominion
D20	at Utah Valley St.	J15	Liberty	F5	High Point		dules are with team		CS Fullerton	N30	Washington St.		-30 Utah St. Classic		Drexel
D23	Brigham Young	J17	High Point	F7	at Winthrop		rts, pages 85-91.	F26		D4	Boise St.	16	UC Santa Barbara		at James Madison
D28	at Utah	J22	at Birmingham So.		at VMI Rirmingham Southern			M3	at UC Irvine	D8	at Idaho St.	18	Cal Poly		Hofstra
J1	at Portland St.	J27	at Charleston So.		Birmingham Southern Coastal Carolina		12	M5	at Long Beach St.	D11	Great Falls	J13	at Pacific	J29	William & Mary
J6	Montana St.	J31	UNC Asheville		Liberty		dules are with team		L POLY	D18	at Southern Utah	J15	at CS Northridge	J31	Delaware
J8	Montana	F2	at Winthrop		at Radford	repor	rts, pages 46-53.		Eastern Washington		Utah St.	J20	CS Fullerton	F2	at UNC Wilmington
J13	at Northern Arizona	F5	VMI	2.77	P. P. Salan S. Salan	Ri	West		at Portland St.		at Portland	J22	UC Riverside	F5	James Madison
J15	at Sacramento St.	F7	Radford at High Point		DFORD 20 W&M Classic		IRVINE	N29		12	at Eastern Washington		at UC Irvine	F9	at Towson
J20	Portland St.	F12 F14	at High Point at Liberty		20 W&M Classic at Longwood		CS Dominguez Hills	D4 D12	at San Jose St. Santa Clara	J6	Cal Poly	J29	at Long Beach St.		at Walliam & Mary
J22 J25	Eastern Washington IPFW		at UNC Asheville		Ferrum		at USC		Dominican	J8	UC Santa Barbara at CS Northridge	F3 F5	at Cal Poly at UC Santa Barbara		at Va. Commonwealth Old Dominion
14.5			- vita imenile	1167				5,0		313	or Co moramage	13	or oc Jama namana	110	old Domillion

	Bracket Buster at Drexel	N27	'-28 Corpus Christi Chal. VMI			D30			Illinois-Chicago		Bracket Buster Butler	D9	Keene St.		Haverford
330	at Hofstra	D4	William & Mary	030	at Kentucky Hampton	J3 J8	Wisconsin-Milwaukee at Wright St.	J26 J29	at Detroit Wisconsin-Milwaukee	200	at Detroit	D11	New Hampshire Hofstra	J28 J29	Brown Yale
	FSTRA	D7	at Liberty	12	at North Carolina	115	Butler	J31	Butler			020	at UC Davis	F4	at Dartmouth
	at Fla. International		at East Carolina	15	Hofstra	J17	at Loyola (III.)	F3	at Cleveland St.	IV	Carlotte Control	D22	Stanford	F5	at Harvard
27	at Binghamton	D18		J8	Delaware	J20	at Illinois-Chicago	F5	at Youngstown St.		OWN		at Santa Clara	F8	at Pennsylvania
1	Columbia	D20		112	at James Madison	122	at WisMilwaukee		at Loyola		-16 Guardians Classic at Rhode Island	030	at Albany	F11	Cornell
4	at James Madison at Longwood	D30	St. Joseph's Corpus Christi Chal.	J15 J19	at Drexel UNC Wilmington	J26 J29	Wisconsin-Green Bay Loyola (III.)	F14 F19	at Illinois-Chicago Bracket Buster		at Wright St.	J2 J5	at Harvard at Holy Cross	F12 F18	Columbia at Yale
11	St. John's	12	at DePaul	122	Va. Commonwealth	F3	at Youngstown St.	F23	Detroit		-23 Guardians Classic	18	Harvard	F19	at Brown
	at Dartmouth	15	at Drexel	126	Towson	F5	at Cleveland St.	F27	at Wright St.	N30	at Wagner	J10	at Vermont	F25	at Columbia
	La Salle	J8	James Madison	J29	at George Mason	F10	Wright St.		CMILWAUKEE	D3	Binghamton	J17	Colgate	F26	at Cornell
27	at Stony Brook	J12		J31	at Hofstra	F12	at Butler		Prairie View A&M	D6	Hartford	J29	at Columbia	M4	Harvard
30	at Syracuse	J15		F2	Drexel	F16	Cleveland St.		Wisconsin-Parkside	D8	New Hampshire	J30	at Cornell	M5	Dartmouth
5	at William & Mary	119		F5	at Delaware	F19	Bracket Buster		Air Force		Holy Cross -29 Central Fla. Classic	F4	Princeton		Pennsylvania
3	Drexel	J22 J26		F9 F12	at UNC Wilmington George Mason	F23	at WisGreen Bay Youngstown St.	D1	South Dakota St.	15	at Canisius	F5 F11	Pennsylvania at Yale	YA	-20 W&M Classic
12	at UNC Wilmington at Va. Commonwealth			F16	James Madison		INOIS-CHICAGO	D4 D7	at Illinois-Chicago at Valparaiso]?	at Providence	F12	at Brown		at Wake Forest
19	Old Dominion	J31	Drexel	F19	Old Dominion	10000	Robert Morris		at Wisconsin	J14	at MdEastern Shore	F18	Cornell		
22	Delaware	F2	Towson	F23	at Va. Commonwealth				at Manhattan	J22	at Yale	F19	Columbia	D1	at Sacred Heart
26	at George Mason	F5	at UNC Wilmington	F26	at Towson	N24	at Bowling Green	13	at Detroit	J28	at Princeton	F25	Brown	D4	Bucknell
29	at Towson	F9	at Delaware	Co	nference USA		South Dakota St.	J6	at Butler	J29 F4	at Pennsylvania at Cornell	F26	Yale	D8	at Niagara
31	William & Mary	F12			dules are with team	N30	at Illinois St.	18	Loyola (III.)	F5	at Columbia	M4 M5	at Pennsylvania	D19	
2	Va.Commonwealth at Drexel	F16			rts, pages 75-82.	D4	Wisconsin-Milwaukee		at Youngstown St.	F11		1244	at Princeton		-29 Cable Car Classi Fairfield
9	James Madison	F23		u.	wiron	D14	at UNC Wilmington at Duke	J15 J17	Wisconsin-Green Bay Wright St.	F12		N19	at Notre Dame	J5 J10	American
12	UNC Wilmington		at James Madison	-	rizon	D18	at DePaul	J20	Cleveland St.	F18	Pennsylvania	N23	Holy Cross	J15	Saint Peter's
16	Towson		OWSON		TLER South Dakota St.	D23	Saginaw Valley St.	J22	Detroit	F19	Princeton	N27	Northeastern	J22	Brown
19	at Delaware	N15	i-23 Guardians Classic		Miami (Ohio)	D30	at Detroit	J26	at Purdue	F25		D1	at New Hampshire	J28	at Pennsylvania
23	at Old Dominion		Norfolk St.	D2	at Ohio	13	at Youngstown St.	J29	at Wisconsin-Green Bay	F26 M4	at Harvard Columbia	D4	at Maine	J29	at Princeton
	George Mason	N27		D7	at Bradley	16	at Loyola (III.)	F3	Illinois-Chicago	M5	Cornell	D7	Boston University	F4	at Columbia
	MES MADISON	D1 D4	at George Mason at MdBalt. County		at Indiana St.	J8 J15	Pennsylvania Cleveland St.	F5 F10	at Wright St.	M8	Yale	D10 D14	at Colgate	F5 F11	at Cornell Dartmouth
	at La Salle	D8	American	-	IPFW	J20	Detroit	F12	at Loyola (III.) Youngstown St.		LUMBIA	D18	at Fairfield Lehigh	F12	Harvard
29	MdBalt. County at Appalachian St.	D11			Ball St.	122	at WisGreen Bay	F16	Butler		-20 Columbia Classic	D22	at LIU-Brooklyn	F18	Princeton
4	Hofstra	D18		J6	30 Fiesta Bowl Classic Wisconsin-Milwaukee	J26	at Wright St.	F19	Bracket Buster	N24	Long Island		30 N. Charleston Shoot.		Pennsylvania
		D22		18	Wisconsin-Green Bay	J29	Butler	F26	at Cleveland St.		Stony Brook	J2	Dartmouth	F25	at Harvard
	at Georgia Tech	D29		113	at Loyola (III.)	F5	at WisMilwaukee	WE	IGHT ST.	D1	at Hofstra	J8	at Dartmouth	F26	at Dartmouth
18	Carlotte Control of the Control	15	Delaware	J15	at Detroit	F10	Youngstown St.		17 Preseason NIT	D6	at Lehigh	J12	Sacred Heart	M4	Cornell
22		J7	Va. Commonwealth	J19	Youngstown St.	F12	at Cleveland St.		Brown	D9 D78.	Sacred Heart -30 Holiday Festival	J29	at Cornell	M5	Columbia
29	High Point	J12		J22	Wright St.	F14	Wisconsin-Green Bay Loyola (III.)		26 Preseason NIT	12	at Lafayette	J30 F4	at Columbia Pennsylvania		at Brown
3	at Old Dominion	119		J27	at Cleveland St.	F19	Bracket Buster	D1	Toledo at Ball St.	14	at Army	F5	Princeton	M	etro
12	William & Mary	J22		J29 J31	at Illinois-Chicago	F23	Wright St.	D4	at Northeastern	115	Cornell	F11	at Brown	Δ+	lantic
15	at Delaware	J26		F5	at WisGreen Bay Loyola (III.)	F26	at Butler	D8	Miami (Ohio)	J17	at Navy	F12	at Yale		NISIUS
19	at Towson	J29		F7	at Wright St.	LO	YOLA (ILL.)	D11	Akron	J22	at Cornell	F18	Columbia	-	Howard
22	George Mason	J31	UNC Wilmington				Northern Illinois	D14	at Southern Illinois	J28	Dartmouth	F19	Cornell		
26	at Va. Commonwealth		at Old Dominion	F12	Detroit		at Bradley	D18	Youngstown St.	J29 F4	Harvard Yale	F25	Yale	D1	Niagara
29	at Drexel Va. Commonwealth	F5 F9	at Va. Commonwealth George Mason	F17	at WisMilwaukee	1000	Benedictine	D22 D30	at Texas-Pan Am	F5	Brown	F26 M4	Brown at Princeton	D4	Fairfield
2	Delaware	F12		F19	Bracket Buster	N29 D1	at Western Michigan at Oral Roberts	13	Morgan St. at WisGreen Bay	F11		M5	at Pennsylvania		
5	at George Mason	F16			at Youngstown St. at Illinois-Chicago	D4	Northern Iowa	16	Cleveland St.	F12			NNSYLVANIA		
9	at Hofstra	F23			EVELAND ST.	D8	at Western Illinois	J8	Detroit	F18	at Harvard		17 Preseason NIT		at Boston Universi 30 Holiday Festival
12		F26			Hillsdale	D12	at North Carolina	J15	at Loyola (III.)	F19			at Wisconsin	12	at Charleston
16	at William & Mary	F28			Norfolk St.	D18		J17	at Wis,-Milwaukee	F25 F26	Princeton Pennsylvania		Drexel	15	Brown
19	at UNC Wilmington		. COMMONWEALTH	D2	Clarion	D21	at Youngstown St.	J22	at Butler	M4	at Brown		-26 Preseason NIT	J8	Saint Peter's
	Longwood Towson		American -26 Preseason NIT	D8	at Akron	D29 J3	at Central Michigan Cleveland St.	J26 J29	Illinois-Chicago at Cleveland St.	M5	at Yale	D1	Bucknell at LaSalle	J10	lona
	Old Dominion		at UAB		Kent St.	16	Illinois-Chicago	F3	Loyola (III.)	CO	RNELL	D8	at Temple		
	C WILMINGTON	D1	Hampton		at Utah Valley St.	J8	at Wis,-Milwaukee	F5	Wisconsin-Milwaukee		-20 Marist Classic	D31	at Villanova		
	Marshall	D5	at UNC Wilmington	D30	at Eastern Michigan at North Carolina	J13	Butler	F7	Butler	N23	at Colgate	J12	Rider	J20 J22	Manhattan Rider
	at North Texas	D11	Richmond	13	at Loyola (III.)	J15	Wright St.	F10	at Detroit		Ithaca	J15	at Siena	J28	at Fairfield
	at UNC Asheville	D18		16	at Wright St.	J17	Detroit		at Youngstown St.	D1 D4	at Quinnipiac	J4	at San Francisco	J30	at Iona
30	The state of the s	D22		J8	Youngstown St.	J20	at WisGreen Bay	F19 F23	Bracket Buster at Illinois-Chicago	D4 D6	at St. Bonaventure Lafayette	J8	at Illinois-Chicago	F5	Siena
5	Va. Commonwealth	D29	Mississippi at Middle Tennessee	J11	at WisGreen Bay	J26	Youngstown St.		Wisconsin-Green Bay	D18		J18 J28	at Lafayette Yale	F7	Marist
12		15	at George Mason	J15	at Illinois-Chicago	J29	at Detroit		UNGSTOWN ST.	D20		129	Brown	F11	at Saint Peter's
18		17	at Towson	J20	at WisMilwaukee	F3 F5	at Wright St. at Butler		Lock Haven	D28	St. Francis (N.Y.)	F4	at Harvard		at Rider
28		J12		J22	at Youngstown St.	F10	Wisconsin-Milwaukee		Slippery Rock	J2	at Army	F5	at Dartmouth		
31	Elon	J15		J26 J29	Butler Wright St.	F12	Wisconsin-Green Bay		Boston University	J4	at Lehigh	F8	Princeton	F20	Loyola
3	at James Madison	J19		F3	Wisconsin-Green Bay	F16	at Illinois-Chicago		SW Missouri St. Classic	J8 J15	at Dayton at Columbia	F11	Columbia		at Manhattan at Marist
	at George Mason	J22 J26	And the second s	F5	Detroit	F19	Bracket Buster		Bowling Green	122	Columbia	F12 F18	Cornell at Brown	1000	IRFIELD
5	Hofstra Towson	129		F10	at Butler	F24	Cleveland St.		Siena	J29	Harvard	F19	at Yale		-19 Coaches vs. Can
19	at William & Mary	131	at James Madison	F12	Illinois-Chicago	WI	SCGREEN BAY		at Wright St. Loyola (III.)	130	Dartmouth	F25	at Cornell		Elon
2	at Old Dominion	F2	at Hofstra	F16		N20	IUPUI		St. Francis (Pa.)	F4	Brown	F26	at Columbia	N28	at George Washin
6	Drexel	F5	Towson	F19			at Michigan St.		at Duquesne	F5	Yale	M4	Dartmouth	N30	Manhattan
19	at Delaware	F9	at Drexel	F23	Loyola (III.)		SE Missouri St.	13	Illinois-Chicago	F11		M5	Harvard	D4	at Canisius
31	at Towson	F12		1000	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	D1	at Chicago St.	J6	at WisGreen Bay	F12		M8	at Princeton	D7	at St. Joseph's
2	George Mason	F14	201112000000000000000000000000000000000		TROIT	D4	Weber St.	J8	at Cleveland St.		at Dartmouth at Harvard		INCETON		
9	Old Dominion	F19			SW Missouri St.	D7 D11	at Wisconsin at Montana St.	J12	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	F25			-19 Coaches vs. Cancer		
12	William & Mary at Hofstra	F23			at Purdue Ball St.		at Northern Iowa	J15	at IPFW	F26			at Lafayette	D30 J2	at Niagara Iona
14	at Drexel		UNC Wilmington	D1	at Western Michigan		30 Green Bay Classic	J19 J22	at Butler Cleveland St.	M4	at Yale	D1 D8	at Holy Cross Rutgers	15	at Yale
	James Madison	-	ILLIAM & MARY	D4	Bowling Green	13	Wright St.	J26	at Loyola (III.)	M5	at Brown	D12		18	at Michigan
23	Delaware		-20 W&M Classic	D8	at Northeastern	16	Youngstown St.	F3	Detroit	DA	RTMOUTH		at Temple	J12	at Siena
	at Va. Commonwealth	N23	at Campbell	D11	at Cincinnati	18	at Butler	F5	Wisconsin-Green Bay	N23	Quinnipiac	D27-	-28 Sun Bowl Tourn.	J15	at Rider
	D DOMINION	N28	Virginia Tech	D18	Gannon	J11	Cleveland St.	F10	at Illinois-Chicago	N27	at Lehigh	D31	Loyola (Md.)	J19	Marist
าก	South Alabama	D1	Longwood	D20		J15	at WisMilwaukee	F12	at WisMilwaukee	N29	Maine	12	Davidson	J22	Siena
	Corpus Christi Chal.	D4	at Old Dominion		at Chicago St.	J20	Loyola (III.)		Wright St.		at Hartford	J6	at Duke	J28	Canisius

J30 F3	at Manhattan at Loyola (Md.)	F6 F11	at Loyola (Md.) Rider	-	at Marist Niagara	D1 D4	Wright St. at Miami (Ohio)	D20 D29	at Vanderbilt Loyola (III.)	J15 J19	Toledo Akron	F16 F19	Akron Bracket Buster	N24 D1	at Texas Southern Wisconsin-Green Bay
F7	at Saint Peter's	F13	Marist	SA	INT PETER'S	D8	Anderson	12	at Marshall	122	at Kent St.	F23	Eastern Michigan	D4	at Northwestern
F10 F12	at Marist Niagara	F16 F19	Loyola (Md.) Bracket Buster		at West Virginia	D11 D18	IUPUI Indiana St.	J6 J9	Buffalo Eastern Michigan	J27 F1	at Buffalo Kent St.	F26 M2	at Marshall Buffalo	D6 D15	at Illinois at Minnesota
F16	Rider	F24	Canisius		Lafayette at Monmouth	D22	at Butler	J12	at Miami (Ohio)	F3	at Northern Illinois	M5	at Kent St.	1000 P	at Texas A&M
F19	Bracket Buster		at Saint Peter's	D2	Loyola (Md.)	D28	Indiana	J15	Northern Illinois	F6	at Ball St.		LEDO		Detroit
F21 F24	Saint Peter's at Iona		ARIST -20 Marist Classic	D6 D18	at Marist at Fairleigh Dickinson	J2	at Indianapolis Kent St.	J19 J22	Ohio at Akron	F9 F12	Eastern Michigan at Western Michigan		at Vanderbilt at Wright St.	J1 J3	at Texas A&M-CC at Baylor
F26	Loyola	N23	at St. Bonaventure	D23	St. Francis (N.Y.)	15	Ohio	J26	Bowling Green	F15	at Miami (Ohio)	D1	at East Carolina	16	at Centenary
IOI			at Vermont		30 N. Charleston Shoot.	J12 J18	at Toledo Bowling Green	J29 F3	at Western Michigan Ball St.	F23 F26	Buffalo Ohio	D7	Nevada	J8 J13	Western Illinois
	16 Guardians Classic St. Bonaventure	D3	at Holy Cross at Rider	J3 J6	Rider at Niagara	J22	at Western Michigan	F6	Toledo	M2	at Akron		at Duke -22 San Juan Shootout	J15	at Southern Utah at Oakland
	23 Guardians Classic	D6	Saint Peter's	J8	at Canisius	J25	at Akron	F9	at Northern Illinois	M5	Miami (Ohio)	J2	at Eastern Michigan	J20	at Valparaiso
N28 D1	at Vermont Fordham	D10 D19	Lafayette at St. John's	J15	at Yale at Manhattan	J29 J31	Northern Illinois Eastern Michigan	F12 F16	at Eastern Michigan Western Michigan		AMI (OHIO) Purdue	J6 J9	Akron at Buffalo	J22 J29	Oral Roberts IUPUI
D5	Rider	D22		J21	at Iona	F3	at Central Michigan	F19	Bracket Buster		at Xavier	J12	Ball St.	F3	Southern Utah
D8	at George Mason	D30		J24	Siena	F6 F9	Marshall Miami (Ohio)	F23 F26	Kent St. at Toledo	N27	at Butler	J15	at Marshall	F5	at UMKC
D11	at Siena Va. Commonwealth	J7 J9	Siena Manhattan	J27 J30	at Loyola (Md.) Marist	F12	at Buffalo	M5		N29 D4	Findlay Ball St.	J22 J26	at Bowling Green at Ohio	F10 F12	Valparaiso at Oral Roberts
D27	Rhode Island	J12	at Loyola (Md.)	F5	at Rider	F16	at Bowling Green	EA	STERN MICH.	D8	at Wright St.	J29	Kent St.	F14	Centenary
D30	Northeastern at Fairfield	J15 J19	Niagara at Fairfield	F7 F11	Fairfield Canisius	F19 F23	Bracket Buster Toledo		22 Paradise Jam	D19	SW Missouri St.	J31	Western Michigan	F19 F22	Oakland at IUPUI
J8	at Niagara	J22	at Fairfield Loyola (Md.)	F15	at Siena	F26	at Northern Illinois	D7	Marshall Rochester College	D21 D27	Liberty at Cincinnati	F3 F6	Miami at Central Michigan		UMKC
J10	at Canisius	J28	lona		lona	M2	at Eastern Michigan	D11	Canisius	15	Northern Illinois	F9	Bowling Green	-	at Western Illinois
J15 J18	at Manhattan at Holy Cross	J30 F5	at Saint Peter's at Niagara	F21 F24	at Fairfield Niagara	M5 BO	Western Michigan WLING GREEN	D18	North Dakota St. at Detroit	J8 J12	at Kent St. Central Michigan	F12 F14	Northern Illinois at Akron	NZO	at WisGreen Bay
J21	Saint Peter's	F7	at Canisius	F27	Manhattan	N20		D23	Cleveland St.	J15	at Buffalo	F19	Bracket Buster	N24	Huntington (Ind.)
J24	Loyola (Md.)	F10	Fairfield	SIE		N24	Illinois-Chicago	D30	at Montana	J19	at Eastern Michigan	F23	at Ball St.	N27	Colorado St.
J28 J30	at Marist Canisius	F13	at Manhattan at Siena		19 BCA Invitational Albany	N27 D4	Bradley at Detroit	J2 J5	Toledo at Kent St.	J22 J26	Ohio Western Michigan	F26 M2	Central Michigan at Northern Illinois	N30 D4	at Samford Indiana-Southeast
F4	Manhattan	F21	lona		Syracuse	D8	Bluffton	19	at Central Michigan	J30	Akron	M5	Eastern Michigan	D6	at DePaul
F7 F10	at Rider Niagara	E24	at Fairfield, Conn. Rider	D5	at Winthrop	D11 D21	at Youngstown St.	J12 J15	Bowling Green at Akron	F3 F5	at Toledo Buffalo	1	STERN MICH.		at Ball St. Western Michigan
F12	at Loyola (Md.)		Canisius	D9 D11	at Manhattan Iona	D30	at Oakland	119	Miami	F9	at Ball St.	N18-	-21 Top of World Classic Loyola		22 Billy Minardi Classic
F18	at Saint Peter's		AGARA		at Youngstown St.	J2	Buffalo	J22	at Northern Illinois	F12	at Ohio	D1	Detroit	D28	Samford
F21	Marist at Fairfield, Conn.		17 Preseason NIT American	D23 D28	at Fordham	J6 J9	at Marshall Northern Illinois	J29 J31	Buffalo at Ball St.	F15	Marshall Bracket Buster	D4	at Buffalo	J3 J8	UMKC Oakland
F24	Fairfield		Central Conn. St.	J2	Vermont at Monmouth	J12	at Eastern Michigan	F3	at Western Michigan	F23	at Akron	D12 D15	at Col. of Charleston at IUPUI	J13	Western Illinois
	Siena	N24-	26 Preseason NIT	J7	at Marist	J15	Western Michigan	F6	IPFW	F27	at Bowling Green	D18	at USC	J15	at Southern Utah
F19	YOLA (MD.) at Virginia Tech	N27	St. John's at Canisius	J12 J15	Fairfield Pennsylvania	J18 J22	at Ball St. Toledo	F9 F12	at Marshall Central Michigan	M2 M5	Kent St. at Marshall	D22 D28	at Virginia Tech South Alabama	J20 J22	at UMKC Centenary
F21	Navy	D5	at Loyola (Md.)	J17	Canisius	J26	at Central Michigan	F16	Northern Illinois		RTHERN ILL.	J2	at Northern Illinois	127	at Oral Roberts
F27	at Pittsburgh	D8	Yale	J22	at Fairfield	J29 F4	at Ohio	F19 F23	Bracket Buster		at Loyola (III.)	J8	Akron	J29	at Chicago St.
F29 D2	Delaware at Saint Peter's	D11 D20		J24 J27	at Saint Peter's Niagara	F7	Akron Ohio	F26	at Ohio Western Michigan	N24 N27	SW Missouri St. at DePaul	J12 J15	Kent St. at Bowling Green	F3 F5	Valparaiso Southern Utah
D5	Niagara	D22	at Bucknell	J29	at Rider	F9	at Toledo	M2	Ball St.	D1	Bradley	J19	Northern Illinois	F7	at Western Illinois
D11	Mount St. Mary's	D30	Fairfield	F1	Manhattan	F12 F16	at Kent St. Ball St.	M5	at Toledo	D4	Akron	J22	Ball St.	F12	at Valparaiso at Centenary
D21 D31	at MdBalt. County at Princeton	J6 J8	Saint Peter's Iona	F5 F7	at Canisius at Niagara	F19	Bracket Buster	200	NT ST. 20 Blue & Gold Classic	D11 D21	at Eastern Illinois at Kansas St.	J26 J29	at Miami (Ohio) Central Michigan		Chicago St.
J2	at Central Conn. St.	J13	at Manhattan	F10	Loyola (Md.)	F23	at Northern Illinois	N23	IPFW	D28-	29 Flint Hills Invit.	J31	at Toledo		at Oakland
J5 J8	VMI Rider	J15 J20	at Marist Rider	F15	Saint Peter's Marist	F27 M2	Miami (Ohio) at Western Michigan	D1 D7	Central Michigan at Creighton	J2 J5	Western Michigan at Miami (Ohio)	F3 F5	Eastern Michigan at Ohio	220	Oral Roberts
J12	Marist	122	Manhattan	F20	Rider	M5	Central Michigan	D11	at Cleveland St.	19	at Bowling Green	F9	Buffalo		at Mississippi St.
J14	Canisius	127	at Siena		at Loyola (Md.)	100	FFALO	D22		J12	Ohio	F12	Marshall	D1	at Eastern Illinois
J17	Rider at Loudonville, N.Y.	J30 F5	Loyola (Md.) Marist		at Iona		at Connecticut Fairleigh Dickinson	D29	at Boston College at Ball St.	J15 J19	at Central Michigan at Western Michigan	F16 F19	at Central Michigan Bracket Buster	D4 D11	at Central Florida Northern Iowa
	at Marist	F7	Siena		d-American	N27	Indiana St.	15	Eastern Michigan	J22	Eastern Michigan	F26	at Eastern Michigan	D18	Central Florida
J24 J27	at Iona Saint Peter's		at Iona at Fairfield		at Drake	D1 D4	Colgate Western Michigan	J8	Miami (Ohio) at Western Michigan		at Buffalo at Ball St.	M2 M5	Bowling Green at Ball St.		at Colorado at Wichita St.
J30	at Niagara	F16	Canisius		Mt. Union	D7	at Elon	115	at Ohio	F3	Marshall	1		13	at IUPUI
F3	Fairfield	F19	Bracket Buster		Hampton at Duqueens	D11	Niagara	J19	Buffalo	F6	at Kent St.	-	Id-Continent	J6	Southern Utah
F6 F10	Manhattan at Siena		at Saint Peter's at Rider	D1 D4	at Duquesne at Northern Illinois	D18	at Canisius at Penn St.	J22 J29	Marshall at Toledo	F9 F12	Central Michigan at Toledo		at Arkansas St.	J8 J10	at Centenary North Dakota St.
F12	lona	RIE		D8	Cleveland St.	J2	at Bowling Green	F1	at Marshall	F16	at Eastern Michigan		at Texas Tech	J13	at Valparaiso
F16 F20	at Manhattan at Canisius		at Bucknell		at Wright St. at Dayton	J6 J9	at Central Michigan Toledo	F6 F9	Northern Illinois at Akron	F19 F23	Bracket Buster Bowling Green		at Northwestern St. Hawkeye Challenge		at Western Illinois South Dakota St.
	Siena	N27 N30	Drexel Monmouth	D27	Oakland	J12	at Akron	F12		F26	Ball St.	D8	Arkansas Baptist		IUPUI
F26	at Fairfield	D3	Marist	J2	Ohio	J15	Miami (Ohio)	F15	at Buffalo	M2	Toledo		Louisiana-Monroe Stephen F. Austin	J24	Centenary
	NHATTAN South Dakota St.	D5 D9	at Iona Fairleigh Dickinson	J6 J8	at Toledo at Western Michigan	J19 J25	at Kent St. Northern Illinois	F19 F23	Bracket Buster at Central Michigan	N28	San Francisco	D22		J29 F3	at Oral Roberts at Oakland
N23	Rhode Island	D11	at Delaware	J12	Buffalo	J27	Marshall	F26	Akron	D2	Butler	D28		F5	Chicago St.
N27	at Fordham		at Massachusetts		Eastern Michigan at Marshall	J29	at Eastern Michigan		at Miami (Ohio) Ohio	D4	Navy	J3 J6	at Oakland Chicago St.	F7	Utah Valley St.
N30 D5	at Fairfield at N.C. State	D29-	30 Green Bay Classic at Saint Peter's	122	Central Michigan	F2 F5	Ohio at Miami (Ohio)	-	RSHALL	D7 D11	at St. Francis (Pa.) at American	18	UMKC		Oakland at Longwood
D9	Siena	J8	at Loyola (Md.)	J25	Ball St.	F9	at Western Michigan	N19	at UNC Wilmington	D18	Duquesne	J10	Valparaiso	F17	Western Illinois
D21	at Arizona	J12	at Pennsylvania	J30 F3	at Miami (Ohio) at Bowling Green	F12 F15	Ball St. Kent St.		East Tennessee St. Oregon	D27- J2	28 Fla. Intl. Tourn. at Akron	J15 J20	at Oral Roberts Southern Utah		Oral Roberts at Chicago St.
D30	Wisconsin-Milwaukee at Wichita St.		Fairfield Loyola (Md.)	F9	Kent St.	F19	Bracket Buster	1121	at Charleston	15	at Ball St.	J22	at IUPUI		at Southern Utah
15	North Dakota St.		at Loudonville, N.Y.		Toledo at Ohio	F23	at Marshall		at Eastern Michigan	J9	Marshall	J24	at UMKC	F28	Valparaiso
J9 J13	at Marist Niagara	J20 J22	at Niagara at Canisius		at Ohio Bracket Buster	M2 M5	at Ohio Akron	D4 D11	at Illinois St.	J12 J15	at Northern Illinois Kent St.	J27 F3	Western Illinois Oral Roberts		KLAND Cincinnati
J15	lona	J27	Manhattan	F23	Miami (Ohio)		NTRAL MICH.		at Western Kentucky	J19	at Central Michigan	F5	at Valparaiso		at Illinois
J17	Saint Peter's	J29	Siena Saint Potor's	F26 M2	at Kent St. Marshall		at Evansville		High Point	J22 J26	at Miami (Ohio)		at Southern Utah at Chicago St.		Marquette
	at Canisius	F5 F7	Saint Peter's Iona		at Buffalo	N23 N27	Valparaiso Saginaw Valley	D30 J2	at Xavier Central Michigan	129	Toledo Bowling Green	F19		D1 D4	at Texas A&M at Missouri
J20 J22	at Niagara	T/									and the same of th			-	
J22 J27	at Niagara at Rider	F11	at Manhattan	BA	LL ST.	D1	at Kent St.	16	Bowling Green	F2	at Buffalo	F26			at Kansas St.
J22				BA				J6 J9 J11	Bowling Green at Ohio West Virginia	F2 F5 F7	at Buffalo Western Michigan at Bowling Green	F28	at Western Illinois Oakland ICAGO ST.	D15	at Kansas St. at Saint Louis North Dakota St.

2	CHEUULE	9		_											
D30	Bowling Green	F3	at IUPUI	F19	at Florida A&M	N29	Portland St.	J2	at Miami (Fla.)	J29	at Indiana St.	F19	Bracket Buster	F28	at Wichita St.
13	Centenary	F5	Centenary	F21	at Bethune-Cookman	D4	Longwood	15	at Savannah St.	F2	Southern Illinois	F22	at Creighton	1	UTHERN ILLINOIS
J6	Valparaiso	F10		F26	MdEastern Shore	D6	at MdEastern Shore	J8	at South Carolina St.	F5	at Illinois St.	F26	at Drake		-27 Las Vegas Classic
J8 J15	at IUPUI Chicago St.	F12		M5	Morgan St.	D12 D18	at lowa St. at Longwood	J10 J19	at North Carolina A&T MdEastern Shore		at SW Missouri St. Wichita St.	F28	SW Missouri St.	N29 D7	at Hawaii at ArkLittle Rock
J20	at Oral Roberts	F26			at Illinois	D22	at James Madison	J22	at Howard	F16	at Evansville		-16 BCA Classic	D11	
J22	Southern Utah	F28	100740000		-27 Las Vegas Classic	D28	at Georgetown	J24	at Delaware St.	F19	Bracket Buster	N22		D14	Wright St.
J24 J29	at Valparaiso at Michigan St.		at lowa	D1 D4	at Marquette at MdEastern Shore	J8 J10	Morgan St. Coppin St.	J29 J31	at Morgan St. Coppin St.	F23 F26	Illinois St. at Northern Iowa	N27 N30	Tennessee-Martin Illinois-Chicago	D18	
F3	UMKC		at UCLA		at Michigan St.	115	at South Carolina St.	F5	at Florida A&M		Drake	D4	St. John's	D21 D23	
F5	at Western Illinois		at CS Northridge	D20	Jacksonville St.	J17		F7	at Bethune-Cookman	1000	EIGHTON	D7	Alcorn St.	D30	
F10 F12	at Southern Utah at UMKC	N30	Utah Valley St. Harris Stowe	D22 D27		J22 J24	Norfolk St. Hampton	F12	South Carolina St. North Carolina A&T		-23 Guardians Classic Arkansas-Pine Bluff	D11 D18	Marshall	12	Drake
F17		D6	Evansville	D29	at Michigan	J29	Bethune-Cookman	F19	at MdEastern Shore		at Xavier	D23	at Loyola (III.) at Southern Illinois	J5 J9	at Louisiana-Lafayette at Creighton
F19	at Chicago St.	D8	Loyola	J8	Coppin St.	J31	at Florida A&M	F26	Delaware St.	D4	High Point	030	SW Missouri St.	J12	at Evansville
F23 F26	Western Illinois IUPUI	D11 D19		J10 J15	Morgan St.	F3 F7	at Delaware St. MdEastern Shore	F28 M4	Howard at Hampton	D7	Kent St.	13	at Northern Iowa	J15	SW Missouri St.
	at Centenary	D21		J17	at North Carolina A&T at South Carolina St.	F12	at Morgan St.	-	ORTH CAROLINA A&T		at Nebraska Wyoming	J6 J9	Indiana St. at Evansville	J19 J22	Bradley at Wichita St.
990.00	RAL ROBERTS	D28	at Notre Dame	J22	Hampton	F14	at Coppin St.	N12	-14 NABC Classic	200	at Evansville	J15	Drake	J26	at SW Missouri St.
	Oklahoma Wesleyan at Northern Arizona	J4 J8	at Valparaiso	J24 J29	Norfolk St. Florida A&M	F19 F21	South Carolina St. North Carolina A&T		at Texas A&M	D28	CANCEL CONTRACTOR	J19	at Indiana St.	J29 F2	Evansville at Bradley
N27		J10	at Chicago St. Oral Roberts	J31	Bethune-Cookman	F26	at Hampton	D2	High Point at Radford	D31	at San Diego at Drake	J22 J25	at Creighton Evansville	F5	at Northern Iowa
D1	Loyola	J13	at IUPUI	F3	Howard	F28	at Norfolk St.	D4	at Coppin St.	19	Southern Illinois	J29	at Wichita St.	F7	at Drake
D5	at Tulsa	J15	UMKC	F5	MdEastern Shore	M5	Delaware St.	D11		J12	at Indiana St.	F1	at Drake	F9 F12	Indiana St. Creighton
	at Utah Valley St. Northern Colorado	J22 J27	Valparaiso at Centenary	F12 F14	at Coppin St. at Morgan St.	-	at Fresno St.	D14 D18		J15	at Northern Iowa Drake	F5 F10	Bradley Wichita St.	F16	at Illinois St.
	-23 Rainbow Classic	J29	at Southern Utah	F19	North Carolina A&T	N23	at Virginia Tech		at Tulane	J22	Illinois St.	F12	Northern Iowa	F19	Bracket Buster
	Utah Valley St.	F5	Oakland	F21	South Carolina St.	D1	MdBaltimore County			J26	at Bradley	F16	Southern Illinois	F23 F26	Northern Iowa
J4	at Indiana Southern Utah	F7 F10	IUPUI at Oral Roberts	F26 M3	at Norfolk St. at Hampton	D4 D6	Delaware St. Howard	J8 J10	Hampton Norfolk St.	J29 F1	at SW Missouri St. Wichita St.	F19 F23	Bracket Buster at Bradley		Wichita St. at Indiana St.
18	at Valparaiso	F17		M5	at Howard	D11	Morehead St.	122	at Florida A&M	F5	SW Missouri St.	F26	at SW Missouri St.		/ MISSOURI ST.
J10	at Western Illinois	F19			ORIDA A&M	D18	at Nicholls St.	J24	at Bethune-Cookman	F9	Northern Iowa	F28	Creighton		at Detroit
J15 J20	Centenary Oakland	F23 F26			at Michigan St.	D21 D22	at TCU at Baylor	J29 F5	MdEastern Shore Coppin St.	F12 F16			DIANA ST.	N24 N27	at Northern Illinois Texas-Pan Am
J22	at Chicago St.		Chicago St.	N21 N26		D29	at Portland St.	F7	Morgan St.	F19	Bracket Buster	N23	Coastal Carolina at Indiana		SW Missouri St. Classic
J27	IUPUI	-	id-Eastern	N30		18	at Florida A&M	F10	at Morgan St.	F22	Evansville	N27	at Buffalo		Troy
J29 F3	UMKC at Centenary		THUNE-COOKMAN	D4	at Norfolk St.	J10 J14	at Bethune-Cookman Brown	F12	at Hampton at Norfolk St.	F26	Indiana St. at Illinois St.	D2	Birmingham Southern	D19 D23	
F10	The state of the s		at Maine	- 00	at Hampton at Southern	117	at Hampton	F19	at Delaware St.	2.11	AKE	D4 D9	Eastern Illinois Valparaiso	D30	
F12		N29	South Florida	D18		J19	at Norfolk St.	F21	at Howard	1	Akron	D11	Butler	12	Evansville
F17	at Oakland at UMKC	DI	at Lakeland, Fla. Texas Southern	D30		J22 J24	Coppin St.	F26	Florida A&M		at Iowa St.	D18		J5 J8	at Bradley Wichita St.
F23	at Southern Utah	D4	at Hampton	J6 J8	Bethune-Cookman MdEastern Shore	129	Morgan St. at North Carolina A&T	F28	Bethune-Cookman South Carolina St.	N30	lowa at Colorado St.	D20-	23 Rainbow Classic Drake	J12	at Northern Iowa
F26	Valparaiso	D6	at Norfolk St.	J15	at Coppin St.	J31	South Carolina St.		UTH CAROLINA ST.	D8	Wichita St.	12	at Bradley	J15	at Southern Illinois
	at IUPUI	D13	14 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	J17	at Morgan St.	F5	at Delaware St.		-16 BCA Classic		Western Illinois	J6	at Illinois St.	J18 J22	Northern Iowa at Drake
6,000	at Sacramento St.	D16		J22 J24	North Carolina A&T South Carolina St.	F7 F12	at Howard Florida A&M		at Alabama St. at Miami (Fla.)	D20	at Southern Utah Wagner	J9 J12	Northern Iowa Creighton	126	Southern Illinois
N27		D22		J29	at Delaware St.	F14	Bethune-Cookman	N28		D30		J15	Wichita St.	J29	Creighton
	at Montana	J3 J6	at Savannah St. at Florida A&M	J31	Howard	F19	Norfolk St.	D4	at Morgan St.	J2	at Southern Illinois	J19	Illinois St.	F3 F5	Indiana St. at Creighton
D4 D8	at Utah at Weber St.	J10	MdEastern Shore	F2 F5	Savannah St. Norfolk St.	F21 F26	Hampton at Coppin St.	D6	at Coppin St. Savannah St.	J5 J8	Creighton Bradley	J22 J26	at Evansville at Northern Iowa	F9	Bradley
	at Idaho St.	J13	at Virginia Tech	F7	Hampton	F28	at Morgan St.		at South Carolina	110	Texas A&M-CC	129	Bradley	F12	Drake
F75	Idaho	J15	at Morgan St. at Coppin St.	F12	at MdEastern Shore		ORGAN ST.		-30 Utah St. Classic	J15	at Illinois St.	F3	at SW Missouri St.	F15	at Indiana St.
35,775	Drake at BYU	J22	South Carolina St.	F14 F19			23 Guardians Classic at George Washington	J8	Norfolk St.	J19 J22	at Creighton SW Missouri St.	F5 F9	at Wichita St. at Southern Illinois	F19 F23	Bracket Buster at Wichita St.
J4	at Oral Roberts	J24	North Carolina A&T		Morgan St.		Towson	J15	100 miles	126	at Wichita St.	F12	Evansville		Illinois St.
16	at UMKC	J29	at Howard	F26	at North Carolina A&T	D1	at Navy	J17	Delaware St.	J29	Northern Iowa	F15	SW Missouri St.	F28	at Evansville
J13 J15	Chicago St.	J31 F5	Delaware St. Hampton		at South Carolina St.	D4 D6	South Carolina St. at Nebraska	J22	at Bethune-Cookman at Florida A&M	F1 F5	Illinois St. at Evansville		at Drake	-	CHITA ST.
J20	at Centenary	F7	Norfolk St.		at Bethune-Cookman	D9	Coppin St.	J24 J29	at Longwood	F7	Southern Illinois		at Creighton Southern Illinois		Eastern Washington
J22	at Oakland	F11			at Clemson	D11	Maine	J31	at MdEastern Shore		at SW Missouri St.		RTHERN IOWA	D1	at Austin Peay San Francisco
J27	Valparaiso	F14 F19	at MdEastern Shore Morgan St.	N21		D21	at Seton Hall	F5	Morgan St.	F16 F19	at Northern Iowa Bracket Buster		Wayne St.	D8	at Drake
J29 F3	Western Illinois at Chicago St.	F21		N27 D1	at Akron at Va. Commonwealth	D27	at Virginia Tech at Wright St.	F7 F12	Coppin St. at Norfolk St.	F22	Indiana St.	N24 D1	at Cincinnati Iowa St.	D18	at Tulsa
F5	at IUPUI	F26	at South Carolina St. at North Carolina A&T	D4	Bethune-Cookman	J8	at Howard	F14	at Hampton	F26	Evansville at Bradley	D4	Loyola (III.)	D21	
F10	Oakland	F28 M3	Florida A&M	D6	Florida A&M	J10	at Delaware St.	F19	at Howard		ANSVILLE	D7	at lowa	D28 D31	
F12 F17	The second secon	1.00	PPIN ST.	D8 D12	at Radford at Norfolk St.	J15	Bethune-Cookman Florida A&M	F21 F26	at Delaware St. Bethune-Cookman	N19	Central Michigan	D11 D15	at UMKC Wisconsin-Green Bay	13	Manhattan
F19	at Western Illinois		at Dayton	D19		J24	at MdEastern Shore	F28	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2		Coastal Carolina at Eastern Illinois	D21	Wagner	18	at SW Missouri St.
F23	Oral Roberts	N29 D1	at Texas at Oklahoma		-23 Golden Bear Classic		Norfolk St.	M5	at North Carolina A&T	D1	Tennessee-Martin	D23	The state of the s	J12	
F26	LPARAISO	D4	North Carolina A&T	D30 J8	at William & Mary at North Carolina A&T	J31 F5	at Hampton at South Carolina St.	Mi	ssouri Valley	D4	Austin Peay		31 Las Vegas Classic	J15	at Indiana St.
	Cincinnati	D6	South Carolina St.	J10	at South Carolina St.	F7	at North Carolina A&T	10000	ADLEY	D6	at Western Illinois	J3 J7	Illinois St. at Evansville	J17 J22	at Evansville Southern Illinois
	at Central Michigan	D9	at Morgan St.	J17	MdEastern Shore	F10	North Carolina A&T		SE Missouri St. Loyola (III.)	D11 D18	Western Kentucky Purdue	19	at Indiana St.	124	at Northern Iowa
N27 D4	Charlotte	D11	at West Virginia at Pittsburgh	J22 J24	at Delaware St.	F12	Howard Delaware St.		at Bowling Green		at Indianapolis	J12	SW Missouri St.	J26	Drake
04	Duke at Chicago	D20		J29	at Howard at Coppin St.	F19	at Bethune-Cookman	D1	at Northern Illinois		Creighton	J15	Creighton	J29	Illinois St.
D7	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	D29		J31	Morgan St.	F21	at Florida A&M	D4	DePaul	D31	at Wichita St. at SW Missouri St.	J18	at SW Missouri St.	F1	at Creighton
D9	at Indiana St.	J1	at Minnesota	F5 F7	at Bethune-Cookman	F28	MdEastern Shore	D7	Butler	J7	Northern Iowa	J22 J24	at Bradley Wichita St.	F5 F10	Indiana St. at Illinois St.
	-18 Las Vegas Classic -30 Fiesta Bowl Classic	J8 J10	at Delaware St. at Howard	F12	at Florida A&M North Carolina A&T	M5	at Coppin St.	D18	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	J9 J12	Illinois St. Southern Illinois	J26	Indiana St.	F12	at Bradley
J4	Western Illinois	J15	Florida A&M	F14	South Carolina St.		at Towson	D28		115	at Bradley	J29	at Drake	F16	
J6	at Oakland	J17	Bethune-Cookman	F21	at MdEastern Shore	N27	at Cleveland St.	J2	Indiana St.	J17	Wichita St.	F2 F5	Evansville Southern Illinois	F19	Bracket Buster
J8 J10	Oral Roberts at Centenary	J22 J29	at MdEastern Shore Hampton	F26 F28	Howard Delaware St.	N30 D4	Savannah St. Florida A&M	J5 J8	SW Missouri St. at Drake	J22 J25	Indiana St. at Illinois St.	F9	Southern Illinois at Creighton		
J13	UMKC	J31	at Norfolk St.		Norfolk St.	D4 D6	Bethune-Cookman	J12	at Wichita St.	129	at Southern Illinois	F12	at Illinois St.		at Southern Illinois Northern Iowa
J20	Chicago St.	F5	at North Carolina A&T	F 700 1	OWARD	D12	Hampton	J15	Evansville	F2	at Northern Iowa	F16	Drake		
J22 J24	at Western Illinois Oakland	F7 F12	at South Carolina St. Delaware St.		at St. Francis (Pa.) at Pittsburgh		at Clemson at Rutgers	J19 J22	at Southern Illinois Northern Iowa	F5 F12	Drake at Indiana St.	F19 F23	Bracket Buster at Southern Illinois		ountain West
J27	at Southern Utah	-	Howard		at Canisius	D28	at Georgetown	J26	Creighton	F16		F26	Bradley		rts, pages 102-105.
						TEA	200 10 40000		-			- 27			1

Northeast	ST. FRANCIS (PA.) N19 Howard	D30 at Louisville J6 at Tennessee-Martin	J29 at Morehead St. F3 Eastern Illinois	F24 at Eastern Illinois F26 at SE Missouri St.	N22 Sacred Heart N24 at Stony Brook	J8 at Bucknell J12 at Army	J23 at Army J28 Colgate
	N22 at Bucknell	J8 at Murray St.	F5 SE Missouri St.	TENNESSEE ST.	N28 at New Hampshire	J15 Colgate	J30 Bucknell
not a tangable at breas times	N29 at American	J13 at Austin Peay	F10 Tennessee Tech	N19 at Western Kentucky	D1 Polytechnic Univ.	J18 Iona	F4 Holy Cross
N19-20 C. Conn. St. Tourn.	D1 at Pittsburgh	J15 at Tennessee Tech J20 Jacksonville St.	F12 Austin Peay F15 Tennessee-Martin	N21-23 Corpus Christi Chal.	D4 at St. Francis (N.Y.) D6 Albany	J21 Navy J23 American	F6 Army F11 at Colgate
WZZ at mayara	D7 Ohio D11 George Washington	J22 Samford	F17 at Tennessee St.	N27-28 Corpus Christi Chal. N30 Trevecca	D9 New York Maritime	J28 at Lafayette	F13 at Bucknell
	D18 Slippery Rock	J27 Murray St.	F24 at SE Missouri St.	D2 Fisk	D19 at Notre Dame	J30 at Lehigh	F19 at Lehigh
D22 at Connecticut	D22 at Minnesota	J29 Tennessee-Martin F1 Morehead St.	F26 at Eastern Illinois	D5 at Middle Tenn. St.	D30 at Fairleigh Dickinson J2 Cornell	F4 at Navy	F23 Lafayette
DZO Z7 Cabic cai ciassic	D29 at Youngstown St.	F1 Morehead St. F3 at Tennessee St.	N19-20 C.Conn.St.Tourn.	D14 Alabama A&M D16 at Arkansas	J2 Cornell . J4 Columbia	F6 at American F11 Lafayette	F26 at American
J2 Loyola (Md.) FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON	WAGNER N20 at St. John's	F10 at Samford	N27 Louisiana-Monroe	D18 at Alabama	J8 at Colgate	F13 Lehigh	Southeastern
N17-19 BCA Invitational	N23 at American	F12 at Jacksonville St.	N30 IUPUI	D22 South Dakota St.	J12 Holy Cross	F19 at Colgate	Schedules are with team reports, pages 56-63.
N23 at Buffalo	N27 Albany	F17 SE Missouri St. F19 Eastern Illinois	D3 at Louisiana-Monroe	D31 at lowa St.	J15 at Bucknell J21 American	F23 Bucknell F26 Army	
D4 at California	N30 Brown D19 at lowa St.	F22 at Morehead St.	D5 at South Alabama D9 Tennesseee-Wesleyan	J2 at Louisville J6 at Jacksonville St.	J23 Navy	LAFAYETTE	Southern
DU al MIZUNA SL.	D21 at Northern Iowa	F26 Austin Peay	D18 Tennessee-Temple	J8 at Samford	J28 at Lehigh	N20 at Duquesne	APPALACHIAN ST. N20 Erskine
D18 Saint Peter's	D23 at Drake	JACKSONVILLE ST.	D21 at Bradley	J13 SE Missouri St.	J30 at Lafayette	N23 at Saint Peter's	N24 at Virginia
D22 at Rutgers	D30 at Stony Brook	N14-16 BCA Classic N19 Mississippi Valley St.	D28 at IUPUI D30 at Notre Dame	J15 Eastern Illinois J20 at Tennessee-Martin	F3 at American F6 at Navy	N27 Princeton N30 Drexel	N27 Tennessee Tech
DOU MILITY	J2 Lehigh	N21 Berry College	J4 at Jacksonville St.	J22 at Murray St.	F11 Lehigh	D2 Swarthmore	N29 James Madison D1 at South Carolina
LONG ISLAND N21 Lehigh	Ohio Valley	N23 Shorter College	J8 Tennessee St.	J27 at Austin Peay	F13 Lafayette	D6 at Cornell	D6 USC-Spartanburg
M24 at Columbia	AUSTIN PEAY	D1 at Wofford	J13 Murray St.	J29 at Tennessee Tech	F19 Bucknell F23 Colgate	D10 at Marist	D11 at Wofford
M20 at Rocton College	N19-22 Paradise Jam N27 Wichita St.	D4 at Jackson St. D15 at Coastal Carolina	J15 Tennessee-Martin J20 at Morehead St.	F3 Eastern Kentucky F5 Morehead St.	F26 at Holy Cross	D13 CS Northridge D22 Moravian	D18 Milligan
D8 at Albany	D1 at Vanderbilt	D20 at Delaware St.	J22 at Eastern Kentucky	F10 at Eastern Illinois	BUCKNELL	D28 at Georgia Tech	D22 at Vanderbilt D30 at Miami
D10 Old Worthury	D4 at Evansville	D22 Mississippi St.	J27 at Eastern Illinois	F12 at SE Missouri St.	N11-19 Coaches v. Cancer	J2 Columbia	JS East Tennessee St.
D22 Hannard	D18 at Memphis	at Jackson, Miss.	J29 at SE Missouri St.	F17 Murray St.	N19 Rider	J5 at St. Francis (N.Y.)	J8 UNC Greensboro
D29. 30 Einsta Roud Classic	D21-22 Billy Minardi Classic D28 Western Kentucky	D29 at Arkansas J4 Samford	F3 Tennessee Tech F5 Austin Peay	F19 Tennessee-Martin F24 Samford	N22 St. Francis (Pa.) N26-27 Cyclone Classic	J8 Navy J12 at Lehigh	J11 at Davidson
MONMOUTH	D30 Middle Tennessee	J6 Tennessee St.	F5 Austin Peay F10 Eastern Kentucky	F26 Jacksonville St.	D1 at Pennsylvania	J12 at Lehigh J15 at American	J15 at Georgia Southern J18 Elon
N20 at Loyola Marymount	J3 at Chattanooga	J13 Tennessee-Martin	F12 Morehead St.	TENNESSEE TECH	D4 at Yale	J18 Pennsylvania	J22 College of Charleston
	J6 SE Missouri St.	J15 Murray St.	F17 at Austin Peay	N19 at Mississippi	D7 Robert Morris	J21 at Bucknell	J24 at Chattanooga
1120 -+ DI-I	J8 Eastern Illinois J13 Eastern Kentucky	J20 at Eastern Kentucky J22 at Morehead St.	F19 at Tennessee Tech F22 Jacksonville St.	N23 Virginia Intermont	D18 at Cornell D22 Niagara	J23 at Colgate J28 Holy Cross	J29 at East Tennessee St.
D3 -+ C-+ H-II	J15 Morehead St.	J27 at SE Missouri St.	F24 at Tennessee St.	N27 at Appalachian St. N30 at Kentucky	D28 at Saint Joseph's	J30 Army	J31 at Longwood
	J20 at Eastern Illinois	J29 at Eastern Illinois	SE MISSOURI ST.	D10 at East Tennessee St.	J2 at Pittsburgh	F4 Bucknell	F3 The Citadel F7 at Western Carolina
	J22 at SE Missouri St.	J31 Reinhardt	N19 at Bradley	D19 Jacksonville	J8 Holy Cross	F6 Colgate	F12 Chattanooga
And the second designation of the second des	J25 Tennessee Tech J27 Tennessee St.	F3 Austin Peay F5 Tennessee Tech	N23 Rockhurst	D23 at Miami	J12 at Colgate	F11 at Holy Cross F13 at Army	F14 Furman
	F3 at Jacksonville St.	F10 Morehead St.	N27 at WisGreen Bay D1 at Western Kentucky	D29-30 N. Charleston Shoot. J6 Eastern Illinois	J15 Army J21 Lafayette	F13 at Army F19 American	F16 Longwood
N27 at Delaware	F5 at Samford	F12 Eastern Kentucky	D4 South Dakota St.	J8 SE Missouri St.	J23 Lehigh	F23 at Navy	F19 at UNC Greensboro F21 Western Carolina
D1 at George Washington		F15 at Austin Peay	D9 Montana	J13 Morehead St.	J28 at American	F26 Lehigh	F26 at Elon
	F12 at Murray St. F15 Jacksonville St.	F17 at Tennessee Tech F22 at Samford	D11 Central Methodist	J15 Eastern Kentucky	J30 at Navy	LEHIGH	CHATTANOOGA
	F17 Samford	F26 at Tennessee St.	D18 Southern Illinois D22 at North Texas	J20 at SE Missouri St. J22 at Eastern Illinois	F4 at Lafayette F6 at Lehigh	N19 at Penn St. N21 at Long Island	N20 Toccoa Falls College
	F19 Bracket Buster	MOREHEAD ST.	D29 at Saint Louis	J25 at Austin Peay	F11 American	N24 Sacred Heart	N24 Liberty
	F22 at Tennessee Tech	N19-20 Columbia Classic	J1 Lincoln	J29 Tennessee St.	F13 Navy	N27 Dartmouth	N27 at Ohio St. N29 Brevard College
- Committee	F26 at Eastern Kentucky	N23 Kentucky Christian Col.		F3 at Samford	F19 at Army F23 at Holy Cross	N30 Albany	D2 at Virginia Tech
N15-17 Preseason NIT N19 Concordia	N19 Illinois-Springfield	D1 Asbury D4 IPFW	J8 at Tennessee Tech J11 Eastern Illinois	F5 at Jacksonville St. F10 at Murray St.	F23 at Holy Cross F26 Colgate	D3 at Stony Brook D6 Columbia	D5 at Tennessee
	N23 at DePaul	D8 at Kentucky	J13 at Tennessee St.	F12 at Tennessee-Martin	COLGATE	D15 Eastern	D18 at Belmont D21 Virginia-Wise
TE / Eo lescason ini	N28 Evansville	D11 at MdEastern Shore	J20 Tennessee Tech	F17 Jacksonville St.	N19-20 C. Conn. St. Tourn.	D18 at Harvard	D29-30 Chattanooga Tourn.
in or congress	D2 UMKC	D19 at Ohio St. D21 Taylor	J22 Austin Peay J27 Jacksonville St.	F19 Samford F22 Austin Peay	N23 Cornell	D21 at Xavier	J3 at Austin Peay
DI COINCII	D4 at Indiana St. D7 Illinois Benedectine	D27 at Louisville	J29 Samford	F26 at Morehead St.	N27 Juniata D1 at Buffalo	D30 at Towson J2 at Wagner	J5 The Citadel
DII at Diexei	D11 Northern Illinois	D30 George Mason	F3 at Tennessee-Martin		D4 at Syracuse	J4 Cornell	J8 Western Carolina J10 at Elon
D30 at Connecticut	D17-18 Holiday Classic	J6 at Murray St.	F5 at Murray St.	Pac-10 Schedules are with team	D10 Harvard	J8 at American	J15 at Wofford
J2 Longwood	D21 Western Illinois	J13 at Tennessee-Martin	F8 at Eastern Illinois	reports, pages 66-72.	D18 Hobart	J12 Lafayette	J17 at Georgia Southern
POREDT MODDIS	D30 at Kansas St. J2 at Purdue	J15 at Austin Peay	F12 Tennessee St. F17 at Eastern Kentucky	Patriot	D21 Loyola Marymount D27-28 Fla. Intl. Tourn.	J15 at Navy J21 at Colgate	J22 East Tennessee St.
N15-16 Guardiane Claceie	J6 at Tennessee Tech	J20 Samford	F19 at Morehead St.	AMERICAN	D30 at Florida Atlantic	J23 at Bucknell	J24 Appalachian St.
N19 at Virginia	J8 at Austin Peay	J22 Jacksonville St.	F24 Murray St.	N15-26 Preseason NIT	J8 Army	J28 Army	J29 at UNC Greensboro J31 at Davidson
N24 at Pittsburgh	J11 at SE Missouri St.	J27 Tennessee-Martin J29 Murray St.	F26 Tennessee-Martin	N20 at Niagara	J12 Bucknell	J30 Holy Cross	F5 Elon
	J15 at Tennessee St.	F3 at Eastern Kentucky	TENNESSEE-MARTIN N20 at Duke	N23 Wagner	J15 at Holy Cross J17 at Dartmouth	F4 Colgate F6 Bucknell	F7 College of Charleston
D11 F	J20 Austin Peay J22 Tennessee Tech	F5 at Tennessee St.	N22 Reinhart	N29 St. Francis (Pa.) D4 Vermont	J21 Lehigh	F11 at Army	F12 at Appalachian St.
000 111 11	J27 Samford	F10 at Jacksonville St.	N29 Bethel	D4 Vermont D8 at Towson	J23 Lafayette	F13 at Holy Cross	F14 UNC Greensboro F19 at Western Carolina
D29 Duquesne	J29 Jacksonville St.	F12 at Samford F17 Eastern Illinois	D1 at Evansville	D11 Ohio	J28 at Navy J30 at American	F19 Navy	F19 at Western Carolina F21 at East Tennessee St.
J3 at Charleston Southern		F19 SE Missouri St.	D4 at Illinois St.	D23 at Maryland	F4 at Lehigh	F23 American F26 at Lafayette	F26 Furman
and the committee	F5 at Tennessee-Martin F8 SE Missouri St.	F24 Eastern Kentucky	D6 at Arkansas St. D11 at IPFW	D28 La Salle	F6 at Lafayette	NAVY	COLL OF CHARLESTON
N19 Albany	F10 Tennessee St.	F26 Tennessee Tech	D18 at Portland St.	J2 at Delaware J4 at Missouri	F11 Navy	N19 at MdBalt. County	N15-26 Preseason NIT
1122 at rulliy	F17 at Morehead St.	MURRAY ST. N20 SIU-Edwardsville	D21 at Mississippi	J8 Lehigh	F13 American F19 Holy Cross	N21 at Loyola (Md.)	N19 Charleston Southern
NAT OLLEHIGH	F19 at Eastern Kentucky	N23 Arkansas Tech	D29-30 Chattanooga Tourn.	J12 at Navy	F23 at Army	N23 Merchant Marine	D4 at East Tennessee St.
	F24 Tennessee-Martin	N27 at Missouri	J6 Eastern Kentucky	J15 Lafayette	F26 at Bucknell	N28 VMI	D7 Auburn D12 Western Michigan
D9 at Columbia	F26 Murray St.	D1 UT-San Antonio	J8 Morehead J13 at Jacksonville St.	J21 at Army J23 at Holy Cross	HOLY CROSS	D1 Morgan St. D4 at Ohio	D16 UNC Wilmington
D22 at Washington	EAST. KENTUCKY	D4 Western Kentucky	J15 at Samford	J23 at Holy Cross J28 Bucknell	N20 at Boston University	D6 at Belmont	D22 Coastal Carolina
D28 at Connecticut	N20 at Dayton	D11 at Southern Illinois D22 Delaware St.	J18 Murray St.	J30 Colgate	N23 at Harvard N28 Marist	D11 Stony Brook	D29-30 N. Charleston Shoot
	N23 Webster	D28-29 St. Mary's Tourn.	J20 Tennessee St.	F4 Army	D1 Princeton	D18 Gettysburg	J2 Canisius
CE STATE OF	N27 Mount St. Joseph D2 Savannah St.	J2 At UAB	J27 at Morehead	F6 Holy Cross	D4 at Minnesota	D21 at Mount St. Mary's	J5 Elon
ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.)		J6 Morehead St.	J29 at Eastern Kentucky	F11 at Bucknell F13 at Colgate	D6 at Fordham	D30 at The Citadel	J8 Wofford
ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.) N20 at Fordham			E2 CF Missouri C+				
ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.) N20 at Fordham N23 at St. John's	D4 at Coastal Carolina D8 at Western Kentucky	J8 Eastern Kentucky	F3 SE Missouri St. F5 Eastern Illinois	F19 at Lafayette	D9 at Boston College	J3 at Air Force J8 at Lafavette	J10 at Georgia Southern J15 at Davidson
ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.) N20 at Fordham	D4 at Coastal Carolina		F3 SE Missouri St. F5 Eastern Illinois F10 Austin Peay	F19 at Lafayette F23 at Lehigh	D21 at Brown D27 Northeastern	J8 at Lafayette J12 American	
ST. FRANCIS (N.Y.) N20 at Fordham N23 at St. John's N30 at Binghamton D4 Army D23 at Saint Peter's	D4 at Coastal Carolina D8 at Western Kentucky	J8 Eastern Kentucky J13 at Samford	F5 Eastern Illinois	F19 at Lafayette	D21 at Brown	J8 at Lafayette	J15 at Davidson

F5 F7	Western Carolina at Chattanooga	F26 at Georgia Southern	D16	Guilford College at Liberty	J6 J8	at SE Louisiana Texas St.	J26 J29	at Lamar Texas St.	M2 M4	at McNeese St. at Sam Houston St.	D11 D15	St. Gregory's Rochester College	J3 J5	Prairie View A&M Texas Southern
	at The Citadel	N13 USC-Aiken	735	William & Mary	J12	McNeese St.	F2	SE Louisiana		EPHEN F. AUSTIN	D21	at Colorado St.	J8	at Jackson St.
	Davidson	N17-19 BCA Invitational	D23	at Wisconsin	J19	SE Louisiana	F5	at Louisiana-Monroe		at South Florida	D22	at Northern Colorado	J10	at Grambling St.
	at Wofford	N23 at Fairfield	D29		J22	at Stephen F. Austin	F10	at Northwestern St.		Concordia-Austin	D30	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	J15	Mississippi Valley St.
	Bracket Buster at Furman	N26 at Richmond	J5 J8	Wofford at Appalachian St.	J26 J29	Nicholls St. Louisiana-Monroe	F17	at Sam Houston St. Texas-San Antonio		-27 Cyclone Classic	J3	at TCU	J17 J20	Arkansas-Pine Bluff Texas-Pan Am
	The Citadel	N29 Weber St. D4 Greensboro	J10	at Furman	F3	at Northwestern St.	F23	Northwestern St.	D4 D8	at Grambling St. at Alabama A&M	J6 J8	at McNeese St. at Lamar	J22	at Alabama A&M
	CITADEL	D7 Buffalo	J15	Western Carolina	F6	Texas-San Antonio	F26	at McNeese St.	D11		J12	Nicholls St.	J24	at Alabama St.
	at Army	D15 at Wake Forest	F18	East Tennessee St.	F10	at Sam Houston St.	M4	at Texas-Arlington	D18		J15	at Louisiana-Monroe	J29	Southern
	Washington & Lee	D18 at Weber St.	J22	at The Citadel	F12	at Texas-Arlington		RTHWESTERN ST.	D20		J20	Northwestern St.	F5	Jackson St.
	at Georgetown	D21 at Boise St.	J24	at Coll. of Charleston	F16	Northwestern St.		at Oklahoma St.	D30		J22	Sam Houston St.	F7	Grambling St.
	Chowan Voorhees	D31 at UNC Wilmington J3 Bluefield	J29 F1	Chattanooga at Elon	F19 F24	at Texas St. at Texas-San Antonio	N21 N24		13	Houston Baptist	J27 J29	at SE Louisiana at Nicholls St.	F12 F14	at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
	Atlanta Christian	J5 at Coll. of Charleston	F5	Davidson	F26	Sam Houston St.	N24 N26	and the same of the same	J6 J13	Northwestern St. at Louisiana-Monroe	F5	Texas-Arlington	F19	Alabama A&M
	Savannah St.	J8 Davidson	F7	Georgia Southern	M2	at Louisiana-Monroe	N30	Centenary	115	at Sam Houston St.	F10	at Stephen F. Austin	F21	Alabama St.
D17	at Clemson	J10 Chattanooga	F12	at East Tennessee St.	LA	-MONROE	D1	Jarvis Christian	J19	at Nicholls St.	F12	at Texas-San Antonio	F26	at Southern
	Western Carolina	J15 at East Tennessee St.	-	at Chattanooga		Texas College	D6	Tulane	J22	Lamar	F16	Louisiana-Monroe	M3	at Prairie View A&M
	Navy	J18 at Appalachian St.	F19	Appalachian St. Elon		at Baylor	D11	at LSU	126	at Texas-Arlington	F19 F24	Lamar McNeese St.	M5	at Texas Southern
	at Chattanooga Georgia Southern	J22 Georgia Southern J24 at Furman		at Western Carolina	N30	at Samford Tougaloo	020	18 Las Vegas Classic at Dayton	F3 F5	McNeese St. at SE Louisiana	M2	at Texas-Arlington		KPINE BLUFF at Creighton
	at Savannah St.	J29 at Western Carolina	7	ESTERN CAROLINA		Samford	13	Huston-Tillotson	F10		M4	Texas-San Antonio		at Nebraska
J15	at Furman	F1 UNC Greensboro	N14	-16 BCA Classic	D11	at Centenary	J6	at Stephen F. Austin	F12	Sam Houston St.	50	uthwestern	N29	
	at Wofford	F5 at Chattanooga		at Alabama	D15	at Texas A&M	18	Texas-San Antonio	F16	at McNeese St.	-		D1	at Baylor
	UNC Greensboro	F7 East Tennessee St.	N21		D18		J12	at Texas-Arlington	F19	SE Louisiana		ABAMA A&M -13 Coaches vs. Cancer	D4	Philander Smith
	at East Tennessee St. at Davidson	F12 Western Carolina F14 Wofford	N23 N29		D20 D28	Southern-New Orleans Centenary	J15 J20	SE Louisiana at Texas St.	F24 F26	Texas-Arlington	N20		D12 D15	
	Wofford	F19 at The Citadel	D1	Liberty	D31	at Arkansas	J22	at Texas-San Antonio	M1	at Northwestern St. at Texas-San Antonio	D1	at Georgia	D20	
	at Appalachian St.	F22 at UNC Greensboro	D4	at UNC Asheville	J6	Texas-San Antonio	J29	at Sam Houston St.		Louisiana-Monroe	D4	Stillman	D22	at TCU
F7	Furman	F26 Appalachian St.	D7	East Carolina	J8	at McNeese St.	F3	Lamar	TE	XAS-ARLINGTON	D8	Stephen F. Austin	13	Mississippi Valley St.
	College of Charleston	FURMAN	D18		J13	Stephen F. Austin	F5	at McNeese St.	10000	Texas-Permian Basin	D11 D14	at Texas A&M at Tennessee St.	18	Alabama St.
	at Georgia Southern	N19 Campbell	D21		J15	Texas St.	F10	Nicholls St.		at New Mexico St.	D20	at Stephen F. Austin	J10	Alabama A&M
F17 F19	at Charleston So.	N22 at Auburn N24-27 Gr. Alaska Shootout	D27	at Wisconsin Georgia Southern	J22 J27	at Texas-Arlington at Sam Houston St.	F12 F16	Louisiana-Monroe at Lamar	N27		D28	at UAB	J15	at Southern at Alcorn St.
	Davidson	D1 UNC Asheville	18	at Chattanooga	129	at Lamar	F23	at Nicholls St.	N30 D2	Texas Wesleyan at TCU	13	Grambling St.	J22	Texas Southern
	at Coll. of Charleston	D8 at Virginia	J10	East Tennessee St.	F5	Nicholls St.	F26	Stephen F. Austin	D4	San Diego	15	Jackson St.	J24	Prairie View A&M
DAI	/IDSON	D11 at High Point	115	at UNC Greensboro	F10	SE Louisiana	M2	Sam Houston St.	D15		J8	at Mississippi Valley St.	J29	at Grambling St.
	at Missouri	D18 Greensboro College	119	Davidson	F12	at Northwestern St.	M4	McNeese St.	D18		J10 J15	at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St.	J31	at Jackson St.
N22		D21 Newberry	J22 J29	Wofford Elon	F16 F19	at Texas St. Texas-Arlington	100	M HOUSTON ST.	D22	Calculation and Colored	122	Alcorn St.	F5 F7	at Alabama St. at Alabama A&M
MSU	at Charlotte Georgetown	D29 Virginia Intermont J2 at Indiana	J31	at Furman	F24	Sam Houston St.		16 Guardians Classic 20 Blue & Gold Classic	J3 J6	New Mexico at Nicholls St.	J24	Southern	F12	Southern
	at Georgia Southern	J5 at Davidson	F5	at Coll. of Charleston	F26	at SE Louisiana		LeTourneau	18	at SE Louisiana	J29	at Texas Southern	F14	Alcorn St.
	UNC Charlotte	J8 at East Tennessee St.	F7	Appalachian St.	M2	Lamar		at Oklahoma St.	J13	Northwestern St.	J31	at Prairie View A&M	F19	at Texas Southern
	Brandeis	J10 UNC Greensboro	F12		M4	at Stephen F. Austin		Jarvis Christian	J20	at Sam Houston St.	F5 F7	Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff	F21	at Prairie View A&M
	Univ. of the South	J15 The Citadel	F14	at East Tennessee St.	5000	NEESE ST.	D4	at Texas-Pan Am	J22	Louisiana-Monroe	F12	at Alabama St.	F26	
	at Massachusetts	J17 at Coll, of Charleston	F19 F21	chattanooga at Appalachian St.		at Houston	D9	Wiley College	J27	Stephen F. Austin	F19	at Alcorn St.	F28 M5	Jackson St. at Mississippi Valley St.
	Seton Hall at Princeton	J22 Davidson J24 Elon		UNC Greensboro	N23 N27	Louisiana College at Southern Miss	D11 D20	La. State-Shreveport Arkansas St.	J29 F5	McNeese St. at Texas St.	F21	at Southern	-	AMBLING ST.
	Furman	J29 at Wofford		OFFORD	N29	Spring Hill	D29	at Florida	F10	Texas-San Antonio	F26	Texas Southern	1000	Jarvis Christian
	at Elon	J31 Western Carolina	F 5 5 7 10	at Miami	02	Jarvis Christian	18	at Nicholls St.	F12	Lamar	F28	Prairie View A&M		Texas College
	Appalachian St.	F5 at Georgia Southern	N22		D4	Loyola	111	at SE Louisiana	F14	St. Edward's	M3 M5	at Grambling St. at Jackson St.	N27	
	Charleston	F7 at The Citadel	N27		D11	Louisiana-Lafayette	J15	Stephen F. Austin	F19	at Louisiana-Monroe		ABAMA ST.	D6	at Rice
	at Western Carolina at Furman	F12 Wofford F14 at Appalachian St.	N29 D1	at Tennessee Jacksonville St.	D13		J20 J22	Texas-Arlington	F24	at Stephen F. Austin	2000	at Georgia Tech	D11 D22	
	East Tennessee St.	F17 Georgia Southern	D5	at Auburn	D18 D20	at Louisiana Tech at ArkLittle Rock	J27	at TSU-San Marcos Louisiana-Monroe	F26 M2	at Texas-San Antonio Texas St.		South Carolina	D29	at Texas A&M at TCU
	The Citadel	F23 College of Charleston	D8	Toccoa Falls	D28	George Mason	129	Northwestern St.	M4	Nicholls St.		at Atlanta	13	at Alabama A&M
	Chattanooga	F26 at Chattanooga	D11	Appalachian St.	J6	Texas St.	F3	at Texas-San Antonio		XAS-SAN ANTONIO	N30	South Alabama	15	at Alabama St.
	at UNC Greensboro	GEORGIA SOUTHERN	D18	at Charleston So.	J8	Louisiana-Monroe		Lamar	N21	Texas-Tyler	D4	Birmingham Southern at Tennessee	J8	Southern
	at Wofford	N18-21 Top of World Classic	D19	at Georgia		at Lamar		at Stephen F. Austin		Texas Lutheran		at Florida A&M		Alcorn St.
	Georgia Southern at Charleston	N24 at Washington St.	13	at South Carolina Erskine	J15 J20	Texas-Arlington at San Antonio	F17	Nicholls St.	N28			Troy	J15	at Prairie View A&M at Texas Southern
	at The Citadel	N27 Brewton-Parker N29 at Mercer	15	at UNC Greensboro	122	at Nicholls St.	F24	McNeese St. at Louisiana-Monroe	D1 D11	Louisiana Tech		-28 Sun Bowl Tourn.	J22	Jackson St.
	Wofford	D4 Davidson	18	at Col. of Charleston	129	at Texas-Arlington	F26	at Lamar		at Texas-Pan Am at Louisiana Tech	J3	Jackson St.	129	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
EAS	T TENNESSEE ST.	D11 Augusta St.	J15	Chattanooga	F3	at Stephen F. Austin	M2	Northwestern St.		at Kansas St.	15	Grambling St.	J31	Mississippi Valley St.
	Virginia-Wise	D15 Arkansas St.	J17	The Citadel	F5	at Northwestern St.		SE Louisiana	D21	at Wichita St.	J8 J10	at Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Miss. Valley St.	F5	at Southern
	at Marshall	D19 at Florida	J22 J24	at Western Carolina at Georgia Southern		at SE Louisiana		LOUISIANA	D29	at Texas	J15	at Alabama A&M	F7	at Alcorn St. Prairie View A&M
	Fresno St. King College	D30 Fort Valley St. J3 at Western Carolina	129	Furman	F19 F24	at Sam Houston St. at Texas St.		21 Boise Invitational	J4	New Mexico St.	J22	Southern	F14	Texas Southern
	at Alabama	J8 at The Citadel	J31	at The Citadel	F26	Nicholls St.		at Southern Miss	J6 J8	at Louisiana-Monroe	J24	Alcorn St.	F19	at Jackson St.
	College of Charleston	J10 College of Charleston	F5	East Tennessee St.	M2	SE Louisiana		La. State-Shreveport SW Missouri St. Classic		at Northwestern St. Nicholls St.	J29	at Prairie View A&M		at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
	at Central Michigan	J15 Appalachian St.	F7	Davidson	M4	at Northwestern St.		at Southern	J20	at McNeese St.	J31	at Texas Southern		at Miss. Valley St.
	Tennessee Tech	J17 Chattanooga J19 Savannah St.	F12	at Furman	NIC	CHOLLS ST.		Wiley	J22	Northwestern St.	F5 F7	Arkansas-Pine Bluff Mississippi Valley St.	M3	
	at Old Dominion Union College	J19 Savannah St. J22 at Elon	F14 F17	at Elon College of Charleston		at Auburn	D18	at Houston	J29	SE Louisiana	F12	Alabama A&M	_	Alabama St.
	at Memphis	J24 Wofford	F21			at Michigan St.	D22	Loyola	F3	Sam Houston St.	F19	at Southern		at Maryland
	at Appalachian St.	J29 at Col. of Charleston		at Davidson	D1 D7	Loyola-New Orleans Wesley	D31	at Mississippi	F5	at Lamar	F21	at Alcom St.		-27 Las Vegas Classic
	Furman	J31 at Savannah St.	Se	uthland		at Lipscomb	13	Lamar Toyar Arlington	F10	The Party of the Late of the L	F26	Prairie View A&M	D1	Portland St.
	at Western Carolina	F5 Furman F8 at UNC Greensboro		outhland		at Mississippi	J5 J8	Texas-Arlington Sam Houston St.	F12 F17	Texas St. at SE Louisiana	F28 M3	Texas Southern Jackson St.	D4	Jacksonville St.
	Elon at HNC Greenshorn	F8 at UNC Greensboro F12 at Davidson		MAR Jarvis Christian Col.	D16		115	at Northwestern St.	F19	at Nicholls St.	M5	Grambling St.	D7	Louisiana Tech
	at UNC Greensboro at Chattanooga	F14 The Citadel	N27			MdEastern Shore	J19	at Lamar		Lamar		CORN ST.	D11	
	The Citadel	F17 at Furman	D1	at Louisiana-Lafayette		Texas Southern	J27	Texas St.	F26			-16 Guardians Classic	D18 D20	
	at Davidson	F19 Bracket Buster	D4	Houston		CinciBible College	J29	at Texas-San Antonio	M2	Stephen F. Austin		at Wyoming	D29	
	Appalachian St.	F21 at Wofford	D7	Texas-Pan Am	D29	at Jackson St.	F2	at Nicholls St.	M4	at Texas St.		at Air Force	13	at Alabama St.
F5	at Wofford	F26 East Tennessee St.		Arkansas Tech	J6	Texas-Arlington	F5	Stephen F. Austin at Louisiana-Monroe		XAS ST.		-23 Guardians Classic	J5	at Alabama A&M
	at Elon	UNC GREENSBORO	1713	Air Force	18	Sam Houston St.	F10			at Texas	N27	Texas St.	J8	Alcorn St.
F7		N23 Coastal Carolina		at Rice	112	at Texas St	F17	McNeese St.	NDS	St. Edward's	14	Arkansas Kantiet	110	Southorn
F7 F12	UNC Greensboro	N23 Coastal Carolina N27 at Duke	D16	at Rice Wiley College	J12 J14	at Texas St. at Texas-San Antonio	F12 F16	McNeese St. Texas-San Antonio	N23 N27	St. Edward's at Alcorn St.	D4 D7	Arkansas Baptist at Illinois St.	J10	Southern at Texas Southern
F7 F12 F14		N23 Coastal Carolina N27 at Duke N30 Bridgewater		Wiley College	J12 J14 J19	at Texas St. at Texas-San Antonio Stephen F. Austin		Texas-San Antonio at Stephen F. Austin					J10 J15 J17	at Texas Southern at Prairie View A&M

120	Ministrato et Velles Co	112 -17	01/	o train Water	127	al the Harbert					D		A Prince William
J29 J31	Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff	M3 at Texas Southern M5 at Prairie View A&		8 at Eastern Washington 3 at CS Fullerton	129	at New Mexico St.	N20 at Old Dominion	J4 J7	Colorado St. San Diego	F5 F10	Pepperdine Open	F5 F10	at Eastern Michigan Northern Colorado
F5	at Alcorn St.	TEXAS SOUTHERN			F3	Western Kentucky	D2 at Mississippi St.	19	San Francisco		San Francisco		at Valparaiso
F7	at Southern	N19 at Florida St.	J4	at Wyoming	F5	Florida International	D5 Samford	J13	at Portland	F17	at Gonzaga		at Saint Louis
F12		N24 Chicago St.	J8	at Louisiana-Lafayette			D11 at Alabama St.	J15	at Gonzaga	F19	at Portland	F21	Texas A&M-CC
F14		N27 at Nebraska	J13		F12		D16 at Florida St.	J20	St. Mary's	F24	St. Mary's		Texas-Pan American
F19		D1 at Bethune-Cookn			F17	Arkansas St.	D20 Southern Miss	J22	Santa Clara	F26	Santa Clara		Utah Valley St.
F26	The state of the s	D7 at Texas College	J20		F19	Bracket Buster	D28 at Western Michigan	J29	at Loyola Marymount	SA	N FRANCISCO		VANNAH ST.
F28		D11 at Dayton	J22		F24		D31 UAB	F3	at San Francisco	N19	Stanford		19 Coaches vs. Cancer
M3 M5	Alabama St. Alabama A&M	D17 Texas A&M-CC	J27 J29		F28		J8 at New Orleans	F5	at San Diego		at Oakland, Calif.		Hampton
		D21 at Nicholls St.	F3	New Mexico St.		W MEXICO ST.	J13 Louisiana-Lafayette	F10 F12	Gonzaga Portland		UC Santa Barbara	N23	at Lipscomb
	SS. VALLEY ST. at Jacksonville St.	J3 at Southern J5 at Alcorn St.	F5	Louisiana-Lafayette		-21 Top World Classic Texas-Arlington	J15 New Mexico St. J20 at Middle Tennessee	F17		N29 D1	at Ohio at Wichita St.	N27	Jacksonville
	at Hawaii-Manoa	J8 at Prairie View A&				Midwestern St.	J22 at Western Kentucky	F19		D4	Delaware	N28	South Carolina St.
	Middle Tennessee	J15 Jackson St.	F10		D1	at New Mexico	J27 Denver		Loyola Marymount	D7	at Sacramento St.	N30	at Norfolk St.
110.	at Greenville, Miss.		F12		D4	New Mexico	J29 North Texas		DRTLAND		11 San Francisco Tourn.	D2	at Eastern Kentucky
D3-	4 McCaffrey Classic	J22 at Arkansas-Pine I			200	Texas-El Paso	F3 Arkansas-Little Rock		-21 Top of World Classic		at Pacific	D6	Lipscomb
	at Middle Tennessee	J24 at Mississippi Valle		at New Mexico St.	D18		F5 at Arkansas State		Seattle	D20	Montana		at Jacksonville
D23	at Texas-Pan American			South Alabama	D21	at UC Irvine	F10 at Louisiana-Lafayette	N29	Cal Poly	D23	Fresno St.		at South Carolina St.
	-29 Lobo Invitational	J31 Alabama St.	F26	New Orleans	D30	Eastern New Mexico	F12 at New Mexico St.	D1	at Oregon St.	11	at Texas Tech		at The Citadel
J3	at Arkansas-Pine Bluff			LA.INTERNATIONAL		at Texas-San Antonio	F17 New Orleans	D4	at Portland St.	J4	Pennsylvania	D20	Eastern Kentucky
J8	Alabama A&M	F12 at Jackson St.		9 Florida Atlantic	J8	North Texas	F21 Florida International	D6	at Idaho St.	J7	at Loyola Marymount	D28	at Georgia
J10		F14 at Grambling St.		1 Hofstra	J10	Tulsa	F24 at North Texas	D11		19	at Pepperdine	D30	Mercer Rethung Cookman
J15 J17		F19 Arkansas-Pine Blu		6 Florida A&M	J13	at South Alabama	F26 at Denver	D18		J15	San Diego	J3 J5	Bethune-Cookman Norfolk St.
J22	at Southern Prairie View A&M	F21 Mississippi Valley S F26 at Alabama A&M	N30		J15 J20	at New Orleans Louisiana-Lafayette	WESTERN KENTUCKY	D20 D22		J20 J22	Gonzaga Portland	18	Texas A&M-CC
124	Texas Southern	F28 at Alabama St.	D7		J22	at Fla. International	N19 Tennessee St. N23 at Georgia	D28		127	at St. Mary's	J10	The Citadel
J29	at Jackson St.	M3 Southern	D9		J27	Western Kentucky	N23 at Georgia N27 Montana	D30		129	at Santa Clara	J15	at Texas A&M-CC
J31	at Grambling St.	M5 Alcorn St.	D12		J29	Middle Tennessee	D1 SE Missouri St.	12	Idaho St.	F3	Pepperdine	J19	at Georgia Southern
F5	at Alabama A&M	_	D20		F3	at North Texas	D4 at Murray St.	16	at St. Mary's	F5	Loyola Marymount	J31	Georgia Southern
F7	at Alabama St.	Sun Belt	D23	George Washington	F5	at Denver	D8 Eastern Kentucky	J8	at Santa Clara	F12	at San Diego	F2	at Florida A&M
F12	Alcorn St.	ARKANSAS-LITTLE RO		7-28 Fla. Intl. Tourn.	F10	South Alabama	D11 at Evansville	113	Pepperdine	F17	at Portland	F8	at Mercer
F14		N20 Southern Arkansa		at ArkLittle Rock		New Orleans	D18 Marshall	J15	Loyola Marymount	F19	at Gonzaga	F11	at Bethune-Cookman
F19	THE REAL PROPERTY.	N23 at Oklahoma St.	J8	at Arkansas St.	F17	Denver	D22 Kentucky St.	J20	at San Diego		Santa Clara		Florida A&M
F21		N26 at Georgia Tech N30 Southern		at La Salle	F19	at Louisiana-Lafayette		J22	at San Francisco		St. Mary's	TE	(AS A&M-
F26		D3-4 SW Missouri St. Cl	J15	Denver North Texas	F24	at Arkansas St.	J1 Fordham	J29	at Gonzaga		NTA CLARA		RPUS CHRISTI
F28 M5	Grambling St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff	D7 Southern Illinois	J22		F26	at ArkLittle Rock	J5 at Virginia	F3	Santa Clara		14 NABC Classic		Texas A&M-Intl.
7.000		D11 at Mississippi St.	J24			Texas-Pan Am	J13 at ArkLittle Rock	F5 F10	St. Mary's	N19	North Carolina		28 Corpus Christi Chall.
Part of	at WisMilwaukee	D17 St. Bonaventure	130			W ORLEANS -19 BCA Invitational	J15 at Arkansas St. J20 New Orleans	F12	at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine	Maa	at Oakland	D2	at Prairie View A&M
	at South Florida	D20 McNeese St.	F5	at Middle Tennessee		at LSU	J22 South Alabama	F17			at Pacific Stanford	D4	at Baylor
	at Tulane	D29 St. Gregory's	F7	at Western Kentucky		West Florida	J27 at Louisiana-Lafayette		San Diego	D1	San Jose St.	D17	at Texas Southern
D2	Texas A&M-CC	J2 Harding	F14		N30		J29 at New Mexico St.	F26		D4	at Mississippi St.	D22	at Alabama
D4	at Texas A&M	J6 Florida Internation		at South Alabama		Mississippi St.	F3 at Middle Tennessee		MARY'S		at Cal Poly	D28-	29 Flint Hills Invit.
D12	at Tulsa	J10 at Middle Tenness		at New Orleans		at Houston	F5 Arkansas St.		-19 Coaches vs. Cancer		UC Irvine	11	Chicago St.
D18	at Arkansas	J13 Western Kentucky	F26	Western Kentucky	D21-	-22 Billy Minardi Classic	F7 Florida International	N23	at UNLV	D18	Chico St.	13	Oklahoma St.
D21	Oregon St.	J15 Middle Tennessee	F28	3 Middle Tennessee	D28	VMI	F10 Denver	D2	Delaware	D22	at Arizona St.	18	at Savannah St.
D28	at Baylor	J20 at North Texas	LC	DUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	D30	Southern Mississippi	F12 at North Texas	D11	at Hawaii	D28-	29 Cable Car Classic	J10	at Drake
J3	at Alcorn St.	J22 at Denver	N19	9-21 LSU Tournament	J1	at Alabama	F17 Arkansas-Little Rock	D14	at San Diego St.	D31	at Brigham Young	J15	Savannah St.
		177 Advancac Ct											
J5	at Southern	J27 Arkansas St.	N27	7 Rice	18	South Alabama	F24 Middle Tennessee	D17	Sacramento St.	J6	Gonzaga	J20	at Utah Valley St.
J8	Texas Southern	J30 at Fla. Internation	N27	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St.	J13	New Mexico St.		D17 D19	Sacramento St. Hampton	J6 J8	Portland	J20 J22	at Northern Colorado
J8 J15	Texas Southern Grambling St.	J30 at Fla. Internationa F3 at South Alabama	N27 D29 D1	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar	J13 J15	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International	D17 D19 D28	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn.	J6 J8 J15	Portland at Saint Mary's	J20 J22 J26	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American
J8 J15 J17	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St.	J30 at Fla. Internation	N27 D29 D1 D4	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas)	J13 J15 J20	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast	D17 D19 D28 J4	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU	J6 J8 J15 J20	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount	J20 J22 J26 F2	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW
J8 J15 J17 J22	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St.	J30 at Fla. Internationa F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans	D29 D1 D4 TBA	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) 4 at McNeese St.	J13 J15 J20 J22	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American
J8 J15 J17	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St.	N27 D19 D1 D4 TBA ky D19	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State	J13 J15 J20	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU	J6 J8 J15 J20	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet	N27 D19 D1 D4 TBA ky D19	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C.State D Georgia St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.)
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St.	J30 at Fla. Internation: F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayett ARKANSAS ST.	N27 D1 D4 TBA ky D15 D20 te D30 J2	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C.State D Georgia St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St.	J30 at Fla. Internation: at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayett ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary	N27 D1 D4 TBA ky D15 D20 te D30 J2 J5	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St.	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Loyola Marymount San Francisco	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis	D29 D1 D4 TBA ky D19 D20 D20 D30 D2 J2 J5 J8	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabam 5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentur 4 Western Kentur 5 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. F27 Centenary F28 At Memphis F28 At Memphis F29 Liberty	D20 D1 D4 TBA ky D15 D20 D20 D30 J2 J5 J8 J13	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State O Georgia St. J at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St.	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabam F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis N23 at Memphis N24 Liberty D1 Mississippi	D20 D1 D4 TBA ky D15 D20 D20 D30 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 0 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco art Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis N27 Liberty D1 Mississippi D6 Tennessee-Martin	D20 D1 D4 TBA B20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D3	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State 9 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Oreans at New Mexico St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Torida International at North Texas	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St.	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. at Alabama A&M	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis N27 Liberty D1 Mississippi D6 Tennessee-Martin	D20 D1 D4 TBA Kky D19 D20 D20 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D3	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Torida International at North Texas at Denver	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Marry's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco art Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayett ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis N27 Liberty D1 Mississippi D6 Tennessee-Martin D11 Lambuth D10 at Georgia Southe D20 at Sam Houston St	D20 D1 D4 TB/kky D15 D20 D20 D30 D20 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J20 D20 D20 D20 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D3	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State O Georgia St. D at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 NC	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St.	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27 D2	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. Alabama A&M Alcorn St.	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabam F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. F18 at Memphis F19 Mississippi F27 Liberty F28 at Memphis F19 Mississippi F29 Tennessee-Martin F11 Lambuth F19 at Georgia Southe	D20 D1 D4 TB/kky D15 D20 D20 D30 D20 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J20 D20 D20 D20 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D3	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State O Georgia St. D at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 NC	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at New Mexico St. at Guisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DRTH TEXAS Angelo St.	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Wee	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23 N27 D2 D4	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. at Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentur L40 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayett ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary L10 Centenary L10 Mississippi L10 Tennessee-Martin L11 Lambuth L12 at Georgia Southe L12 at Sam Houston St L12 at Sam	D20 D1 D4 TBA D29 D20 D20 D20 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J22 J22 J25 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20 J20	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 0 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 NC N19 N21	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DRTH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Ve Sche	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112.	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27 D2 D4 D7	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5 SC N19 N20	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabam F5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. F30 Centenary F31 Mississippi F32 tiberty F33 at Memphis F34 Georgia Southe F35 at Georgia Southe F36 at Sam Houston St F37 College F38 at Lamar F38 Lyon College	N27 D19 D4 D29 D10 D4 D20 D20 J2 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 T1. J29 Sssic F3 F10	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 9 Georgia St. 10 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver 5 outh Alabama	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Horida International at North Texas at Denver DETHTEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utash St.Classic J3 at Minnesota	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Marry's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Fancisco	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 We Sche repo	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic dules are with team trs, pages 108-112. dependents	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN TEXAS ASM-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-San Antonio
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. at Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College at California	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams 5 New Orleans F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisian-atayeet ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary N23 at Memphis N27 Liberty D1 Mississippi D6 Tennessee-Martin D11 Lambuth D10 at Georgia Southe D20 at Sam Houston St D21-23 Golden Bear Cla D28 at Lamar J3 Lyon College J6 South Alabama	N27 D19 D4 D29 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20 D20	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Morleans at New Orleans at Western Kentucky St. Florida International Western Kentucky St. South Alabama at New Orleans	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23 N27	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver ORTH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Francisco IN DIEGO -19 Preseason NIT UC San Diego	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Wee Sche repo	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Diego Setern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112. dependents w	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11 D16	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson CAS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-San Antonio Texas-Permian Basin
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College at California at ArkLittle Rock	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams F10 et Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F16 Louisiana-Lafayett ARKANSAS ST. N20 Centenary D1 Mississippi F17 Liberty F18 at Georgia Southe F19 at Georgia South F19 at Georg	N27 D1 D4 TB/R ky D19 D20 D30 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J20 J22 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNese St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver South Alabama 1 New Orleans New Orleans New Mexico St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23 N27 D4	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at New Mexico St. at Osciliana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DETH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar TCU	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga J15 at Portland	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20 N22	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Marry's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Tencisco In Diego at San Francisco IN DIEGO UC San Diego Occidental College	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Wee Sche repo	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic dules are with team trs, pages 108-112. dependents w 19 Coaches vs. Cancer	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27 O2 D4 D7 D11 D16 D20	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson KAS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-San Antonio Texas-Permian Basin Birmingham Southern
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F112 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5 SC N19 N20 N20 N20 N30 D11	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss, Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Jackson St. Southern Buff Alabama St. Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern Buff Kentucky St. Stillman College at California at ArkLittle Rock SE Louisiana	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabama F10 ex Port Cantanary F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentur F14 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet F17 at Western Kentur F18 Arkansas St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet F27 Liberty F28 at Memphis F29 Liberty F29 at Memphis F29 Liberty F29 L	N27 D29 D1 D4 TBA kky D15 D20 D20 D20 D20 D30 J2 J5 J8 J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 T. J29 Ssic F3 F5 F10 F12 F12 F13 F14 F15 F16 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17 F17	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNeese St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 2 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans 4 New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver South Alabama New Orleans	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 NC N19 N21 N23 N27 D4	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DETH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar TCU at Texas	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga J15 at Fortland J20 Santa Clara	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20 N22 N27	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Diego at San Diego Tan San Diego Tan Diego -19 Preseason NIT UC San Diego -19 Occidental College San Jose St.	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Ve Sche repo	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112. dependents W 19 Coaches vs. Cancer Grand Valley St.	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 TE) N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11 D16 D20 D22	at Northern Colorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-San Antonio Texas-Permian Basin Birmingham Southern Wright St.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5 SC SC N19 N20 N23 N30 N10 N10 N10 N10 N10 N10 N10 N10 N10 N1	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. Alabama St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College at California at ArkLittle Rock SE Louisiana Florida A&M	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams F10 at Arkansas St. F17 at Western Kentuc F24 New Mexico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet ARKANSAS ST. F30 Centenary F30 at Memphis F31 at Memphis F32 Liberty F31 Mississippi F32 at Sam Houston St F33 Golden Bear Cla F34 Couth Alabama F33 Lyon College F35 South Alabama F31 Middle Tennessee F315 Western Kentucky F35 New Face South F37 Middle Tennessee F37 Western Kentucky F38 Middle Tennessee	N2Z D292 D292 D292 D202 D202 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30 D30	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 9 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver South Alabama New Mexico St. North Texas 1 Afrkansas St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23 N27 D4	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at Ark-Little Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DETH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar TCU aut Texas at Texas at Texas at Texas	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Viriginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga J15 at Fortland J20 Santa Clara J22 St. Mary's	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20 N22 N27 D1	Sacramento St. Hampton 2-29 St. Mary's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Francisco N DIEGO 19 Preseason NIT UC San Diego Occidental College San Jose St. at San Diego St.	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Ve Sche repo Inc N20 N23	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Francisco at San Diego sestern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112. dependents w 19 Coaches vs. Cancer Grand Valley St. at Kent St.	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11 D16 D20 D22 D23	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson (AS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-Permian Basin Birmingham Southern Wright St. Mississippi Valley St.
J8 J15 J17 J22 J24 J29 J31 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5 SC N19 N20 N20 N23 N30 D11	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama St. Alabama St. Alabama St. at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. at Alabama St. at Alabama St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College at California at ArkLittle Rock SE Louislana Florida A&M at North Texas	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams F10 et Mexico St. F17 at Western Kentuc F18 et Western Kentuc F19 et Westico St. F26 Louisiana-Lafayet F27 Liberty F28 Liberty F29 Liberty F29 Liberty F29 et Gentenary F30 et Gentenary F30 et Gentenary F30 et Gentenary F31 Lambuth F32 at Georgia Southe F33 et Lamar F34 Lyon College F35 South Alabama F16 F16 et Gentenation F18 F16	N2Z D292 D292 D11 D4 TB/A TB/A TB/A TB/A TB/A TB/A TB/A TB/A	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans at New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver South Alabama New Orleans A thew Mexico St. Florida International Nestern Kentucky Niddle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver North Texas A Texansas St. North Texas New Mexico St. North Texas St. A Arkansas St.	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23 N27 D4 D7 D11 D16	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at Ark-Little Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Florida International at North Texas at Denver DETH TEXAS Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar TCU aut Texas at Texas at Texas at Texas	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga J15 at Portland J20 Santa Clara J22 St. Mary's J29 Pepperdine	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20 N22 N27 D1 D4	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Marry's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland dat Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Francisco ND DIEGO -10	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Vee Sche repo N11- N20 N23 N26	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego Setern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112. dependents W 19 Coaches vs. Cancer Grand Valley St. at Kent St. Air Force	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11 D16 D20 D22 D23 D29	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson CAS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-Pan Antonio Texas-Permian Basin Birmingham Southern Wright St. Mississippi Valley St. at UNLV
18 J15 J17 J12 J24 J29 J24 J29 J311 F5 F12 F14 F19 F21 F26 F28 M3 M5 SC N191 D131 N200 D11 D131 D131 D131 D131 D131 D131 D13	Texas Southern Grambling St. Jackson St. at Miss. Valley St. at Arkansas-Pine Bluff Alabama St. Alabama A&M at Texas Southern at Grambling St. at Jackson St. Mississippi Valley St. Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Alabama St. at Alabama A&M Alcorn St. Southern UTHERN Kentucky St. Stillman College at California at ArkLittle Rock SE Louisiana Florida A&M at North Texas at Baylor	J30 at Fla. Internation. F3 at South Alabams F10 et Memphis F17 at Western Kentuc F18 at Western Kentuc F19 at Georgia Southe F19 at Georgia South F19 at Georgia Georgia F19 at Ge	N22 D29 D1 D4 TB/BT TB/BT D19 D1	7 Rice 9 at Georgia St. Lamar St. Mary's (Texas) A at McNesse St. 5 at N.C. State 0 Georgia St. 1 at Lamar at Vanderbilt Southern Illinois Denver at South Alabama at New Orleans At New Mexico St. Florida International Western Kentucky Middle Tennessee at North Texas at Denver South Alabama 1 New Orleans 1 New Mexico St. 1 North Texas 1 New Arkansas St. 1 At Ark.—Little Rock	J13 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F10 F12 F17 F21 F24 F26 N19 N21 N23 N27 D4 D7 D11 D16 D22	New Mexico St. Louisiana-Lafayette at Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee North Texas Denver Arkansas St. at ArkLittle Rock at New Mexico St. at Louisiana-Lafayette at South Alabama Horida International at North Texas Angelo St. at Alabama UNC Wilmington Lamar TCU at Texas Art Exas-Pan Am Southern	F24 Middle Tennessee F26 at Fla. International West Coast GONZAGA See Page 117 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT N20 Monmouth N24 at Northern Colorado N27 at UC Riverside D1 Denver D4 Long Beach St. D11 Washington D18 San Diego St. D21 at Colgate D23 at Virginia D29-30 Utah St. Classic J3 at Minnesota J6 San Francisco J8 San Diego J13 at Gonzaga J15 at Portland J20 Santa Clara J21 St. Mary's J29 Pepperdine F3 at San Diego	D17 D19 D28 J4 J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 N15 N20 N22 N27 D1 D4 D7	Sacramento St. Hampton -29 St. Marry's Tourn. BYU Portland Gonzaga Santa Clara at Pepperdine at Loyola Marymount San Francisco San Diego at Gonzaga at Portland at Santa Clara Loyola Marymount Pepperdine at San Diego at San Francisco IN DIEGO 19 Preseason NIT UC San Diego Occidental College San Jose St. at San Diego St. at Texas-Arlington at San Jose St.	J6 J8 J15 J20 J22 J27 J29 F3 F5 F12 F17 F19 F24 F26 Vee Sche repo N11- N20 N23 N26 N30	Portland at Saint Mary's at Loyola Marymount at Pepperdine San Diego San Francisco at Portland at Gonzaga Saint Mary's Pepperdine Loyola Marymount at San Francisco at San Diego estern Athletic dules are with team rts, pages 108-112. dependents w 19 Coaches vs. Cancer Grand Valley St. at Kent St. Air Force at UTEP	J20 J22 J26 F2 F5 F9 F12 F17 F19 F21 F23 N23 N27 D2 D4 D7 D11 D16 D20 D22 D22 D23 D29 D31	at Northern Ćolorado at Texas-Pan American IPFW Texas-Pan American Wiley College at Longwood (Va.) Central Baptist Utah Valley St. at IPFW Huston-Tillotson CAS-PAN AMERICAN Texas A&M-Intl. at SW Missouri St. SW Assemblies of God Sam Houston St. at Lamar Texas-San Antonio Texas-Permian Basin Birmingham Southern Wright St. Mississippi Valley St. at UNLY at Northwestern
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TOP 100 SENIORS

BY ROB BODENBURG, JON MAHONEY AND BEN SYLVAN Two years ago, LeBron James easily was the top player in the senior class. Last year, just a few players were worthy of consideration for the No. 1 spot. This year? Take your pick. Richard Hendrix is the most powerful player in the country. Multidimensional Tyler Hansbrough and Josh McRoberts have skills to spare. Guard Monta Ellis is a small guy with big-time game. But out of this crowded group emerges Louis Williams, SchoolSports' pick as the No. 1 player in the class of 2005.

Rk. Name Pos.		High school	College Commitment
1. Louis Williams SG	6-0/172	South Gwinnett (Snellville, Ga.)	Georgia

This summer Williams proved he can drive to the hoop as well as he can stroke it from downtown. He's a ridiculous athlete who can burn defenders and rise up and dunk on 6-10 players. He also moves well without the ball and is a solid passer.

2. Richard Hendrix PF 6-8/257 Athens (Ala.)

He's the top big man in the class because no one can match his combination of size, skills and athleticism. Hendrix dominates the post with a mixture of power and agility, and he's a shot-blocking machine. He's adept at making opponents pay for the double-team by using his solid passing skills.

Undecided

3. Tyler Hansbrough PF 6-8/224 Poplar Bluff (Mo.) North Carolina

Hansbrough is nearly impossible to stop on the blocks. He uses excellent footwork, a dazzling array of post moves and sheer power to get to the rack. He also is a strong rebounder thanks to his strength and desire to stay with the play. His defensive rebounding can kick-start the fast break.

4. Josh McRoberts PF 6-10/231 Carmel (Ind.) Duk

His stock skyrocketed this summer after an impressive showing at the Nike All-American Camp. He can back defenders down in the post, step out and drill jumpers or take it to the rack for powerful dunks. On defense, his athleticism and long arms cause problems for opponents.

5. Julian Wright SF 6-7/214 Homew.-Floss. (Flossmoor, III.) Undecided

Wright, who was MVP of the Peach Jam this summer, is an athletic forward who can do it all. He has excellent ballhandling and passing skills and court vision, allowing him to be used as a point forward. Defensively, Wright uses his athleticism and quickness to block shots and disrupt passing lanes.

6. Brandon Rush SF 6-6/200 Mount Zion (Durham, N.C.) Undecided

The younger brother of Los Angeles Lakers guard Kareem Rush and former UCLA star JaRon Rush, Brandon is the most athletically elite player in the country and might have more potential than anyone in the class of 2005. He excels in the open floor but needs to work on consistency and his catch-and-shoot skills.

7. Martell Webster SF 6-6/236 Seattle Prep Undecided

He has ridiculous talent but has been hampered by injuries. As a sophomore, he averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds, proving he has the complete package of skills at his position when he's healthy. He can stroke it from downtown, slash, rebound and pass. He's active on defense and has a nose for the ball.

8. Tasmin Mitchell PF 6-8/235 Denham Springs (La.) Undecided

A versatile player who can man either forward spot. There are players who are more athletic, but few who work as hard. Put a smaller player on him and he will go to town down low. Put a big man on him and he will step outside to do his damage. He also inhales rebounds and is a capable shot blocker.

Monta Ellis SG 6-4/175 Lanier (Jackson, Miss.) Mississippi St.

If you want a true competitor who will light up the scoreboard, Ellis is your man. He has a knack for hitting tough shots and can use an array of 3-pointers, pull-up jumpers and slashing drives. As a junior, he averaged 30 points and torched powerhouse Oak Hill Academy for 41 points in a losing effort.

10. Andray Blatche C 6-11/235 South Kent (Conn.) Prep Undecided

Blatche played last season at Henninger (Syracuse, N.Y.) but will spend a year of prep school at South Kent. He has improved tremendously in the past year and is a versatile offensive player as well as a force inside on the boards and on defense. He is an excellent passer and can handle the ball and shoot it from 3-point range.

11. Gerald Green SF 6-8/195 Gulf Shores Academy (Houston) Oklahoma St.

Green is one of the fastest risers on the high school hoop scene. He's a big swingman with a sweet shooting stroke, exceptional leaping ability and a great first step. Although he needs to improve his ballhandling skills, Green's size and athleticism allow him to create his own shot and shoot over smaller defenders.

12. Keith Brumbaugh PF 6-8/197 DeLand (Fla.) Undecide

Brumbaugh, an intense, hard-working forward, brings myriad skills to the table. At 6-8, he can run the floor, handle the ball, knock down 3-pointers and drive to the hoop with incredible quickness. He also uses his quickness to his advantage on defense, but he can have problems against more powerful post players.

13. Shawne Williams SF 6-9/228 Laurinburg (N.C.) Prep Memphis

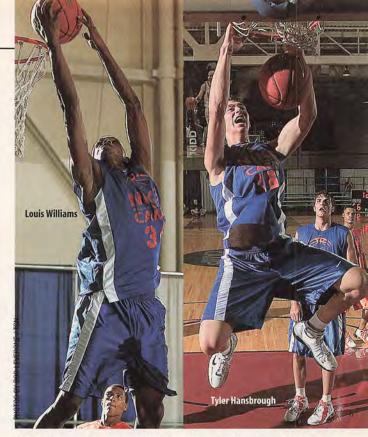
Williams was part of the class of 2004 but went to Laurinburg to get his grades up. He's a big wing player who's physically impressive and a smooth athlete. Though Williams doesn't always dominate like his talent should allow him to, he's a difficult matchup because he can get to the basket or shoot it from 3-point range.

14. Eric Devendorf SG 6-3/180 Oak Hill (Mouth of Wilson, Va.) Syracuse

Devendorf, who played last season at Bay City (Mich.) Central but has transferred to Oak Hill this year, is one of the most prolific scorers in the country. As a junior, he averaged 30.6 points, 5.0 rebounds and 3.7 assists per game. Although he's more of a scoring guard right now, he shows the ability to run the point.

15. Greg Paulus PG 6-2/185 Christian Brothers (Syracuse, N.Y.) Duke

Paulus is the epitome of a point guard. A heady playmaker with tremendous vision, he has started for the



Christian Brothers varsity team since the eighth grade, making life easy for his teammates by setting them up for open shots. He plays with flair, is dangerous from outside and can take over games when necessary.

6. Micah Downs SF 6-8/190 Bothell (Wash.) Kansas

He does a little bit of everything on the court—he can bring the ball up, shoot from 3-point range, pass like a guard and drive to the hoop. Downs has a fluid style reminiscent of Mike Dunleavy. He was named to the King County Class 4A first team after averaging 19.7 points, 11.8 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game.

17. C.J. Miles SF 6-5/195 Skyline (Dallas) Undecide

Miles is a sweet-shooting lefty with a versatile game. He's deadly from the perimeter, but he'll take it to the rack if the defense plays up on him. He is adept at driving along the baseline and can contribute on the offensive boards. He's a very good passer and a good defender, but he feels there's still room for improvement.

18. Mario Chalmers PG 6-2/175 Bartlett (Anchorage, Alaska) Kansas

One of the few knocks on Chalmers is he shoots too much. Of course, if he improves his jump shot just a bit, you probably won't hear about that as much. A natural leader with tremendous vision and great speed, he has excellent passing and ballhandling skills and is extremely quick off the dribble.

19. Chris Douglas-Roberts PG 6-4/170 Northwestern (Detroit) Undecided

He transferred to Northwestern from Cass Tech (Detroit) this summer and is a long, athletic player with the talent to play either guard position. He has a good shooting stroke that extends to 3-point range, but he's most effective using his quickness to drive to the hoop, where he can finish with both hands.

20. Amir Johnson C 6-11/215 Westchester (Los Angeles) Louisville

Missing almost an entire season after transferring has slowed his development, but the athletic big man didn't let his game deteriorate during the time off. He needs to develop a better back-to-the-basket offensive game but is a fantastic blocker, runs the floor well, goes to the rim hard and has 3-point range.

21. Mike Mercer PG 6-3/168 South Gwinnett (Snellville, Ga.) Georgia

Mercer averaged 18.0 points, 8.0 assists and 6.0 boards last season and with Louis Williams (No. 1) led South Gwinnett to a state title. Their success as teammates led them to both commit to Georgia. Mercer has exceptional passing ability and great court vision. He's at his best in transition and has a nice midrange jumper.

. Tyler Smith SF 6-7/225 Giles County (Pulaski, Tenn.) Undecided

Smith is extremely versatile and can play anywhere from point guard to small forward, which is where he most likely will play in college. Named co-MVP of the adidas Superstar Camp this summer, Smith can score in bunches. He has a solid post-up game and can beat big defenders with his quick first step.

23. Bobby Frasor PG 6-3/180 Brother Rice (Chicago) North Carolina

Frasor should thrive under coach Roy Williams, in part because his game is similar to that of Kirk Hinrich, who starred for Williams at Kansas. Frasor is calm and always looks in control. He's a deadly shooter from 3-point range and shoots well coming off screens, but he's also dangerous as a penetrate-and-dish playmaker.

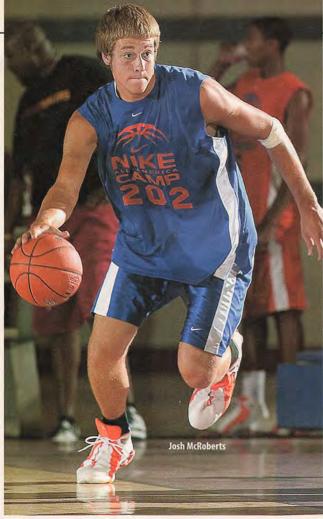
24. Jon Brockman PF 6-6/246 Snohomish (Wash.) Undeci

Brockman brings his lunch pail to the court. His tough, relentless style puts him in position to make plays on both ends of the court. His strength allows him to back down his man and be a solid post presence, and he fights hard for rebounds. His ballhandling needs some work.

25. Terrence Williams SG 6-6/220 Rainier Beach (Seattle) Louisville

Williams is absurdly athletic and has a sculpted body that's already fit for the NBA and a game that's not far behind. He's a big shooting guard with a high basketball IQ who can score in bunches by either playing above the rim or shooting from the outside. His shot is inconsistent, but he's absolutely unstoppable when it's on.

Texas



C 6-11/280 St. Joseph's (Metuchen, N.J.) Undecided Overpowering around the basket. Size and strength are tough to handle if he establishes himself in the paint. 27. Marcus Williams SG 6-7/195 Roosevelt (Seattle) Undecided Smooth guard with tremendous range beyond the arc. Can penetrate, too, but needs to gain some muscle. 28. Luke Zeller PF 6-10/223 Washington (Ind.) Excellent shooting range for a big man. Can beat defenders with a hook shot or a face-up jumper. 29. Eric Boateng C 6-9/230 St. Andrew's (Middletown, Del.) Undecided A raw prospect, but his post game development is promising. Moves well for his size. 30. Byron Eaton PG 5-10/200 Lincoln (Dallas) Strong, physical point who bullies his way into the lane. Extremely quick; good outside shooter. 31. Jamont Gordon SG 6-3/215 Oak Hill (Mouth of Wilson, Va.) Undecided He has a smooth lefthanded shot that's hard to defend. Has an NBA-ready body and can take a beating. 32. Brandon Costner SF 6-9/230 Seton Hall (West Orange, N.J.) Undecided Agile lefty can torch teams with soft jumper. Strong enough to bang inside with serviceable post-up moves. 33. Tyrell Biggs PF 6-8/250 Don Bosco Prep (Ramsey, N.J.) Undecided Quite mobile and athletic for his size. Can finish with both hands and hold his position on the blocks. PF 6-7/223 South Oak Cliff (Dallas) 34. Kevin Rogers Playmaker with an impressive post game. Good rebounder; must improve ballhandling and shooting range. 35. Korvotney Barber PF 6-7/220 Manchester (Ga.) Undersized power forward who compensates for a lack of height with remarkable hops and explosiveness. 36. Davon Jefferson SF 6-8/205 Lynwood (Calif.) Undecided Can play inside and outside; very active on the floor. Solid shot blocker and rebounder. Developing outside shot. 37. Fendi Onobun SF 6-6/224 Alief Taylor (Houston) Presents matchup problems because he's strong enough to bang down low but also can hit outside jumpers. 38. Marcus Ginyard SG 6-5/195 Bishop O'Connell (Arlington, Va.) North Carolina Jack-of-all-trades player who won't stand out. Versatility and intelligence will make him a factor in college. SF 6-8/210 Lincoln (Dallas) 39. Gary Flowers Shot-blocking menace who's working on his offense. An explosive finisher with a nice touch near the basket. 40. Joe Krabbenhoft SF 6-7/225 Roosevelt (Sioux Falls, S.D.) Wisconsin

Skilled perimeter player with a money shot who can beat defenders off the dribble.

41. Theo Davis	C	6-10/220	Cardozo (Bayside, N.Y.)	Texas
Being a legit center makes	him a	hot prospect	t. Athletic enough to make a big impac	t on defense and the boards.
42. Leo Criswell	PF	6-8/220	Piper (Kansas City, Kan.)	Undecided
Athleticism and perimeter	skills	make him in	triguing. Needs to get stronger and d	evelop his post game.
43. Rashad Woods				
	SG	6-6/210	Heritage (Cleveland, Texas)	Undecided
Can shoot from outside or	burn	detenders to	r dunks. An efficient passer who's too	unselfish sometimes.
44. Jamal Boykin	PF	6-6/226	Fairfax (Los Angeles)	Duke
Smart player who uses his	gam	e in the post	against bigger opponents. Has a solid	midrange jump shot.
45. Danny Green	SG	6-5/200	St. Mary's (Manhasset, N.Y.)	Undecided
			the dirty work. Can score, pass, rebou	
46. Andre McGee	PG	6-0/185	Canyon Spr. (Moreno Valley, Calif.)	
Stock has fallen, but still is	a lig	htning quick	playmaker. Prolific scorer has a tender	ncy to take bad shots.
47. Shane Clark	SF	6-7/190	Hargrave Military (Chatham, Va.)	Villanova
Explosive, glides around th	ne cou	irt. Good pass	er whose crossover leaves defenders	helpless.
48. Rashad Chase	PF	6-8/225	Mays (Atlanta)	Undecided
	-		The state of the s	
			ense. Has a nice shooting touch. Must	
49. Dominic James	PG	5-11/169	Richmond (Ind.)	Marquette
Elite leaper with great cou	ırt vis	ion and awar	eness. Uses quickness to keep opposi	ng points in front of him.
50. Vernon Goodridge	C	6-10/220	Lutheran Christian (Philadelphia)	Undecided
			und the hoop and has decent range;	
and more blocking i	JILC.	con minali all	and the noop and has detent range,	to from on detende.
51. Kevin Swinton	PF	6-7/216	Dudley (Greensboro, N.C.)	Wake Forest
52. Uche Echefu	PF	6-7/204	Montrose Christian (Rockville, Md.)	Undecided
53. Courtney Fells	SG	6-7/190	Shannon (Miss.)	N.C. State
54. Marcus Johnson	SF	6-6/190	Westchester (Los Angeles)	Undecided
55. Dior Lowhorn	PF	6-7/215	Berkeley (Calif.)	Undecided
56. Casaan Breeden	SF	6-6/182	Marlboro Co. (Bennettsville, S.C.)	Undecided
57. Terrel Harris	SG	6-4/175	South Garland (Texas)	Oklahoma St.
58. Lewis Clinch	SG	6-3/185	Crisp County (Cordele, Ga.)	Undecided
59. Lamar Roberson	SF	6-8/205	IMG Academy (Bradenton, Fla.)	Louisville
60. Jonathan Kale	PF	6-8/245	St. Andrew's (Barrington, R.I.)	Providence
61. David Huertas	SG	6-4/178	Arlington Country Day (Jacksonville)	Florida
62. Cyrus McGowan	(6-9/225	Meridian (Miss.)	Undecided
63. Michael Washington	PF	6-8/219	McGehee (Ark.)	Undecided
64. Nyan Boateng	SG	6-3/190	Lincoln (Brooklyn, N.Y.)	Undecided
65. J.P. Prince	PG	6-5/183	White Station (Memphis)	Undecided
66. Lawrence Hill	SF	6-8/205	Deer Valley (Glendale, Ariz.)	Stanford
67. Emmanuel Mayben	PG	6-3/170	Troy (N.Y.)	Syracuse
68. Abdul Herrera	(6-10/245	South Miami	Undecided
69. Magnum Rolle	PF	6-11/199	Laurinburg (N.C.) Prep	Undecided
70. Lawrence Kinnard	SF	6-6/186	Raleigh-Egypt (Memphis)	Undecided
71. Wes Matthews	SG	6-5/205	Memorial (Madison, Wis.)	Marquette
72. Shawn Taggart	(6-11/210	Mount Zion (Durham, N.C.)	Undecided
73. Joey Cameron	PF	6-9/240	Leeds (Ala.)	Tennessee
74. Roderick Flemings	SF	6-6/210	DeSoto (Texas)	Oklahoma St.
75. A.J. Abrams	PG	5-10/142	McNeil (Austin, Texas)	Texas
76. Jordan Wilkes	(6-10/200	Loyola (Los Angeles)	Undecided
77. Bryan Harvey	SG	6-6/210	Dominguez (Compton, Calif.)	Undecided
78. Clarence Holloway	(7-1/270	Harlan (Chicago)	Louisville
79. K.C. Rivers	SG	6-3/218	Oak Hill Acad. (Mouth of Wilson, Va.)	Clemson
80. Austin Jackson	PG	6-2/180	Denton Ryan (Denton, Texas)	Undecided
81. Kevin Lisch	PG	6-0/182	Althoff (Belleville, III.)	Saint. Louis
82. Ben McCauley	PF	6-9/225	Yough (Herminie, Pa.)	Undecided
83. Levance Fields	PG	5-10/204	Xaverian (Brooklyn, N.Y.)	Undecided
84. B.J. Raymond	SF	6-5/192	St. John's (Toledo, Ohio)	Xavier
85. J.R.Inman	SF	6-8/200	St. Joseph Regional (Montvale, N.J.)	Rutgers
86. Artem Wallace	PF	6-8/235	Toledo (Wash.)	Washington
87. Devan Downey	PG	5-9/156	Chester (S.C.)	Undecided
88. Chad Millard	SF	6-9/212	Brewster Academy (Wolfeboro, N.H.)	Undecided
89. Danny Williams	SG	6-3/185	Fremont (Los Angeles)	Undecided
90. Jeff Adrien	PF	6-5/218	Brewster Academy (Wolfeboro, N.H.)	Undecided
91. Alfred Aboya	PF	6-7/242	Tilton (N.H.) School	Undecided
92. Terry Martin	SG	6-7/194	Richwood (Monroe, La.)	Texas Tech
93. Ryan Ayers	SG	6-6/205	Germantown (Fort Washington, Pa.)	Notre Dame
94. Derwin Kitchen	SG	6-4/184	Raines (Jacksonville, Fla.)	Florida
95. Josh Thornton	PG	6-2/163	Caesar Rodney (Camden-Wyoming, De	
96. Darren Collison	PG	6-2/150	Etiwanda (Calif.)	UCLA
97. Marcus Landry	PF	6-6/205	Vincent (Milwaukee)	Undecided
98. Denis Clemente	PG	5-11/150	Calusa Prep (Miami)	Undecided
99. Joey Shaw	SG	6-6/170	Deer Valley (Glendale, Ariz.)	Undecided
100. Octavius Spann	SF	6-8/218	Banneker (College Park, Ga.)	Undecided
D. L. D. J. J. J. D	ctor of	SchoolSports Id	on Mahoney and Ben Sylvan are assistant edi	tors for SchoolSports.

C 6-10/220 Cardozo (Bayside, N.Y.)

41. Theo Davis

TOP JUNIORS

BY ROB BODENBURG, JON MAHONEY AND BEN SYLVAN

Rk.	Name	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	High school/Hometown
1.	Greg Oden	C	7-0/245	Lawrence North (Indianapolis)
2.	Derrick Caracter	PF	6-9/282	St. Patrick's (Elizabeth, N.J.)
3.	Brandan Wright	PF	6-9/189	Brentwood (Tenn.) Academy
4.	Darrell Arthur	PF	6-7/202	South Oak Cliff (Dallas)
5.	D.J. Augustin	PG	6-0/160	Brother Martin (New Orleans)
6.	Daequan Cook	SG	6-5/210	Dunbar (Dayton, Ohio)
7.	Brian Zoubek	C	7-0/243	Haddonfield (N.J.) Memorial
8.	Vernon Macklin	PF	6-9/205	Norcom (Portsmouth, Va.)
9.	Spencer Hawes	C	6-9/213	Seattle Prep
10.	Curtis Kelly	PF	6-8/213	Rice (New York)
11.	Kevin Durant	PF	6-8/188	Oak Hill Academy (Fort Washington, Md.)
12.	Thaddeus Young	SF	6-8/210	Mitchell Road (Memphis)
13.	Ramar Smith	SG	6-1/181	Martin Luther King (Detroit)
14.	Pierre Niles	PF	6-7/240	Ridgeway (Memphis)
15.	Lance Thomas	SF	6-8/200	Scotch Plains-Fanwood (Scotch Plains, N.J.)
16.	James Keefe	PF	6-9/204	Santa Margarita (Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.)
17.	Wayne Ellington	SG	6-4/185	Episcopal Academy (Merion, Pa.)
18.	Jon Scheyer	SG	6-5/185	Glenbrook North (Northbrook, III.)
19.	Keith Clark	PF	6-7/221	Putnam City (Oklahoma City)
20.	Paul Harris	SG	6-4/220	Niagara Falls (N.Y.)
21.	Javaris Crittenton	PG	6-5/195	Southwest Atlanta Christian
22.	Jawan Carter	PG	6-0/160	Tatnall School (Wilmington, Del.)
23.	Damion James	SF	6-8/225	Nacogdoches (Texas)
24.	Jerry Smith	SG	6-1/195	Wauwatosa (Wis.) East
25.	Chris Rocquemore	PF	6-8/207	Heritage Christian (Cleveland, Texas)

CLASS OF 2007 TOP SOPHOMORES

	O.J. Mayo		6-5/198	Morth College Hill (Cincinnati)
1.	A Property Committee of the Committee of	SG SF		North College Hill (Cincinnati)
2.	Taylor King		6-7/200	Mater Dei (Santa Ana, Calif.)
3.	Kevin Love	PF	6-8/258	Lake Oswego (Ore.)
4.	Nolan Smith	PG	6-3/180	St. John's (Washington)
5.	Bill Walker	SF	6-5/210	North College Hill (Cincinnati)
6.	Jerryd Bayless	PG	6-1/173	St. Mary's (Phoenix)
7.	Eric Wallace	SF	6-6/180	Glenn (Kernersville, N.C.)
8.	Gary Johnson	PF	6-7/210	Aldine (Houston)
9.	Edwin Rios	PG	6-1/190	Miami (Fla.) Senior
10.	Kyle Singler	SF	6-6/199	South Medford (Medford, Ore.)
11.	Jesse Woodard	PG	6-1/195	Centennial (Compton, Calif.)
12.	Mike Singletary	SG	6-6/185	Kingwood (Houston)
13.	Michael Coburn	PG	5-10/172	Mount Vernon (N.Y.)
14.	Cole Aldrich	PF	6-9/225	Jefferson (Bloomington, Minn.)
15.	Herb Pope	PF	6-7/216	Montrose Christian (Rockville, Md.
16.	Corey Fisher	PG	6-0/180	St. Patrick's (Elizabeth, N.J.)
17.	Eric Gordon	SG	6-3/170	North Central (Indianapolis)
18.	Kevin Branch	SG	6-4/180	Reserve (La.) Christian
19.	JayDee Luster	PG	5-9/140	Hoover (San Diego)
20.	Marshall Moses	PF	6-6/230	Aiken (S.C.)
21.	Daniel Hackett	SG	6-5/195	St. John Bosco (Bellflower, Calif.)
22.	Jeffrey Jordan	SG	6-3/160	Loyola Academy (Wilmette, III.)
23.	E'Twaun Moore	SG	6-3/170	East Chicago (Ind.) Central
24.	Keenan Ellis	C	6-10/185	Cathedral (Indianapolis)
25.	Al Graham	PG	6-2/180	Lanier (Jackson, Miss.)

Rob Bodenburg is editorial director of SchoolSports. Jon Mahoney and Ben Sylvan are assistant editors for SchoolSports.

TOP 50 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

				RE HEADED	
	Name	Pos.		High school/City	College/NBA
1.	Dwight Howard	C	6-11/240	Southwest Atlanta Christian/Atlanta	NBA
2.	Shaun Livingston	PG	6-7/175	Peoria Central/Peoria, III.	NBA
3.	Al Jefferson	C	6-10/265	Prentiss/Prentiss, Miss.	NBA
4.	Marvin Williams	SF	6-9/225	Bremerton/Bremerton, Wash.	North Carolina
5.	Rudy Gay	SF	6-9/215	Archbishop Spalding/Severn, Md.	Connecticut
5.	Robert Swift	C	7-0/245	Bakersfield/Bakersfield, Calif.	NBA
7.	Josh Smith	SF	6-9/210	Oak Hill Academy/Mouth of Wilson, Va.	NBA
3.	Sebastian Telfair	PG	6-0/165	Lincoln/Brooklyn, N.Y.	NBA
).	Malik Hairston	G	6-6/200	Renaissance/Detroit	Oregon
	J.R. Smith	SF	6-6/220	St. Benedict's Prep/Newark, N.J.	NBA
	Daniel Gibson	PG	6-2/190	Jesse H. Jones/Houston	Texas
	Randolph Morris	C	6-11/250	Landmark Christian/Fairburn, Ga.	Kentucky
	LaMarcus Aldridge	PF	6-10/230	Seagoville/Dallas	Texas
	Dorell Wright	SF	6-7/210	South Kent Prep/South Kent, Conn.	NBA
	Joe Crawford	SG	6-4/205	Renaissance/Detroit	Kentucky
6.	Darius Washington Jr.	PG	6-1/185	Edgewater/Orlando	Memphis
7.	DeMarcus Nelson	SG	6-4/205	Sheldon/Sacramento, Calif.	Duke
8.	D.J. White	PF	6-9/230	Hillcrest/Tuscaloosa, Ala.	Indiana
9.	Glen Davis	F	6-8/310	University/Baton Rouge	LSU
0.	Mike Williams	PF	6-7/220	Wilcox Central/Camden, Ala.	Texas
1.	Jordan Farmar	PG	6-2/180	Taft/Woodland Hills, Calif.	UCLA
2.	A.J. Price	PG	6-0/170	Amityville/Amityville, N.Y.	Connecticut
3.	Sasha Kaun	C	6-11/235	Florida Air Academy/Melbourne, Fla.	Kansas
4.	Jawann McClellan	SG	6-5/202	Milby/Houston	Arizona
5.	Juan Diego Palacios	PF	6-8/245	Our Savior/Centereach, N.Y.	Louisville
6.	Corey Brewer	SF	6-8/183	Portland/Portland, Tenn.	Florida
7.	Josh Wright	PG	6-2/170	Proctor/Utica, N.Y.	Syracuse
8.	Rajon Rondo	PG	6-1/165	Oak Hill Academy/Mouth of Wilson, Va.	Kentucky
9.	Gabriel Pruitt	PG	6-4/170	Westchester/Los Angeles	Southern California
0.	Isaiah Swann	SG	6-1/197	Hargrave Military/Chatham, Va.	Florida State
1.	Marquise Gray	PF	6-8/215	Beecher/Flint, Mich.	Michigan State
	Russell Robinson	SG	6-1/185	Rice/New York	Kansas
3.	Greg Stiemsma	C	6-11/245	Randolph/Randolph, Wis.	Wisconsin
	Cedric Simmons	PF	6-10/205	West Brunswick/Shallotte, N.C.	N.C. State
15.		SF	6-6/225	Mount Zion/Durham, N.C.	Cincinnati
	Brian Johnson	PF	6-8/230	Oak Hill Academy/Mouth of Wilson, Va.	Louisville
	Arron Afflalo	SG	6-5/200	Centennial/Compton, Calif.	UCLA
	Churchill Odia	PG	6-6/205	Montrose Christian/Rockville, Md.	Xavier
9.	Ronald Steele	PG	6-2/185	John Carroll Catholic/Birmingham, Ala.	Alabama
	Justin Cerasoli	PG	6-5/185	West Aurora/Aurora, III.	Seton Hall
_	Jason Horton	PG	6-0/173	Cedar Hill/Cedar Hill, Texas	Missouri
	Jason Rich	SG	6-3/185	Dr. Phillips/Orlando	Florida State
3.	Robert Vaden	SG	6-5/200	Bridgton Academy/North Bridgton, Maine	
4.	Kyle Lowry	PG	6-0/185	Cardinal Dougherty/Philadelphia	Villanova
5.	Mohamed Tangara	PF	6-9/230	Mount Zion/Durham, N.C.	Arizona
6.		PF	6-9/245	Marlboro County/Bennettsville, S.C.	Georgia Tech
17.	Sean Singletary	PG	5-11/175	Penn Charter/Philadelphia	Virginia
	Drew Neitzel	PG	6-0/170	Wyoming Park/Wyoming, Mich.	Michigan St.
	Steven Hill	C	The Control of the Control	Branson/Branson, Mo.	Arkansas
	James Gist	PF	6-11/255	Good Counsel/Wheaton, Md.	Maryland

Where last season's top JC players signed By Rick Ball, www.BallStars.net

1.	POS F	Taj Gray/Redlands, Okla.	HT./WT. 6-8/235	SIGNED AT Oklahoma
		Is from Big 12 territory (Wichita, Kan.) an		
		notice as he gives Sooners an inside pre-		
2.	G	Jihad Muhammed/San Jacinto, Texas	5-11/180	Cincinnati
-		True blue point takes what the defense g		
		3 after looking for open teammates first.	iroo. Dropo ure	doop
3.	C	Antoine Tisby/Allen County, Kan.	6-8/228	South Carolina
		Sat out 11/2 years after leaving Bradley. J		
		passer, then next possession a low post		yourngin poor
4.	G	Tyrone Jackson/Fresno City, Calif.	6-2/210	Arizona State
		Odd style—not a true shooting guard and		
		but his teams won many games in JC an		
5.	G	Rashaad Carruth/Indian Hills, Iowa	6-3/195	Southern Miss.
		Took a very long route back to D-I. Has s		
		his game seems casual & disarming. Like		
6.	F	Carl Landry/Vincennes, Ind.	6-7/235	Purdue
٠.		Is from Milwaukee. Tends to take lesser t		
		big men should get his attention, evoking		Section Co.
7.	G	Issac Hines/Collin County, Texas	6-0/165	North Texas
•	u	Texan had chances to leave the state for		
		wants to be a legend in the Big Green's t		ico Dut
8.	C	Aaron Pettway/Hutchinson, Kan.	6-11/235	Oklahoma State
0.	U			
		Went into the service and grew 8 inches;		
0	C	too humble, but can run the floor, reboun		
9.	G	Je'Kel Foster/Chipola, Fla.	6-3/205	Ohio State
		Not the picture perfect jump shot and no	The second secon	The state of the s
		but has hoops integrity and effort that tra	The state of the s	Charles and the second second second
10.	+	Rodney Epperson/Midland, Texas	6-8/200	St. John's
		Long and very talented. Played point gua	THE RESERVE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO PERSONS AND THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED I	uard and small
		forward and will be an assist to this stori	THE SECOND STATE OF S	
11.	200	Solomon Jones/Daytona Beach, Fla.	6-10/210	South Florida
12.	F	Ivan Almonte/Southeastern, Iowa	6-6/225	Florida Inter.
13.	C	J.P. Batista/Barton County, Kan.	6-8/265	Gonzaga
14.	G	Mario Jointer/Chipola, Fla.	6-3/180	South Alabama
15.	G	Vincent Grier/Dixie State, Utah	6-5/200	Minnesota
16.	G	Fred Peete/Northeastern A & M, Okla.	6-4/200	Kansas St.
17.	F	Doug Thomas/Southeastern, Iowa	6-8/245	Iowa
18.	G	Mike Mitchell/Hill, Texas	6-0/175	New Mexico St.
19.	F	Adrian Uter/Broward, Fla.	6-7/218	Hofstra
20.	F	Jamal Nichols/Globe Tech, N.Y.	6-8/235	DePaul
21.	F	Englebert Cherrington/Midland, Texas	6-7/235	Houston
22.	G	Bryson Krueger/Yavapai, Ariz.	6-7/200	Arizona St.
23.	C	Joel Anthony/Pensacola, Fla.	6-9/240	UNLV
24.	G	Jerry Nichols/Walters State, Tenn.	6-6/197	Arkansas St.
25.	F	Yusuf Baker/Southern Idaho	6-8/220	Tulsa
26.	G	Michael Ford/L.A. Southwest, Calif.	6-1/195	Southern Miss
27.	G	Miguel Ayala/Fullerton, Calif.	6-6/190	UTEP
28.	G	Deonte Tatum/Indian Hills, Iowa	6-2/175	Hawaii
29.		Dwayne Shackleford/Allegany, Md.	5-10/185	USC
30.		Jesse Kimbrough/McLennan, Texas	6-0/195	Jacksonville
31.		Robert Faulkner/South Plains, Texas		lowa St.
32.	F	Brandon Gordon/Pensacola, Fla.	6-8/225	
			6-7/210	South Alabama
33.	F	Jay Youngblood/Mott, Mich.	6-4/200	Kent St. Nevada
34.	G	Mo Charlo/Diablo Valley, Calif.	6-7/210	
35.	C	Derrick Ford/Olney, III.	6-10/235	UW-Milwaukee
36.	F	E.J. Drayton/Colby, Kan.	6-8/215	Charlotte
37.	G	Terrell Everett/SMS-West Plains, Mo.	6-4/185	Oklahoma
38.	F	Brandon Polk/Redlands, Okla.	6-6/210	Butler
39.	F	J'son Stamper/Independence, Kan.	6-6/225	Minnesota
40.	F	Dustin Villepigue/Dixie State, Utah	6-9/235	UNLV
41.	С	Nashid Beard/L.A. City, Calif.	6-9/230	Lamar
42.	F	Shawn Hawkins/Columbus State, Ohio	6-6/225	Long Beach St.
43.	G	Jonathan Loe/Northwest, Miss.	6-3/180	Middle Tennesse
44.	G	Bryant Dillon/Southwestern, III.	6-6/178	Purdue
45.	C	Justin Williams/Colby, Kan.	6-10/215	Wyoming
46.	F	Matt Gipson/North Idaho	6-9/235	Hawaii
47.	F	Ryan Rourke/Mesa, Ariz.	6-8/215	Cornell
48.	G	Steve Cherry/Tallahassee, Fla.	6-4/190	Chattanooga
49.	F	Gary Ware/Dodge City, Kan.	6-9/215	Purdue
43.				and the second second

Top 2004-05 JC sophomores

RK. POS.	NAME	HT./WT.	JUNIOR COLLEGE, STA
1. G	Aaron Nixon A possible late West Coast	6-1/215	Columbus State, S.C.
	to those of Jamaal Tinsley.		
2. F	Anderson Ferreira	6-8/220	Chipola, Fla.
	A transfer from Lamar CC is	n Colorado. Fine outsid	de
	3-point shooter. Has decent	size to hit the boards	
3. F	Rekalin Sims	6-8/210	Salt Lake, Utah
	An 18.6 ppg frosh year got		THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE
4. G	Sylvester Mayes What a surprise a great	6-1/190	Redlands, Okla.
5. C	Mohamed Kone	6-11/235	Southern Idaho
	Has size and potential and		
	Illinois and many others.		
6. F	Tyrone Young	6-4/195	Vincennes, Ind.
	Came in with a big vertical		
	serious 3-point shot, so he'		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
7. C	James Davis	7-0/280	Garden City, Kan.
	Showed good hands on a n		
3. G	nearly a double-double and Jason Petrimoulx	6-4/190	Dixie State, Utah
, a	One of those guards who m		The state of the s
	12.0 ppg as a freshman rol	The state of the s	
. F	Michael Harrison	6-10/200	Northeastern, Colo.
	Slender build scares some,		The state of the s
	and is a skilled passer and	shooter.	
0. C	Dennard Abraham	6-9/250	South Plains, Texas
	A banger who needs to get	The state of the s	nave
	fun busting around in the la	ine.	
1. G	Revone George	6-4/185	Perimeter, Ga.
2. F	Tyronne Beale	6-9/205	Allegany, Md.
3. F	Renardo Dickerson	6-6/225	Miami-Dade, Fla.
4. F	Jerome Richardson	6-4/205	Frank Phillips, Texas
5. C	Fernando Bonfim	7-0/290	Western, Neb.
16. G	Sammy Hunter	6-3/175	Southeastern, III.
17. C	Aaron Spears	6-9/250	Highland, III.
18. F	Jessan Gray	6-10/230	Tyler, Texas
19. G	Clarence Sanders	6-2/175	Okaloosa Walton, Fla.
20. F 21. F	Justin Holt	6-8/220	Indian Hills, Iowa Lakeland, III.
22. G	Jarred Stockton Maurice Gibbs	6-5/220 6-2/185	Moberly, Mo.
23. F	Robert Hines	6-5/250	Western, Ariz.
24. G	Marlon Mahorn	6-7/225	Coffeyville, Kan.
25. F	Shawn Simpson	6-7/230	L.A. City, Calif.
26. C	Joel Box	6-8/250	John Wood, III.
27. F	Brian Greene	6-5/185	Santa Fe, Fla.
28. F	Chaz Spicer	6-7/215	Kankakee, III.
29. F	LaKeith Blanks	6-5/195	SMS-West Plains, Mo.
30. C	Walter Waters	6-10/265	Schoolcraft, Mich. Johnson Co., Kan.
31. C 32. G	Kyle Spears Bryce Sheldon	6-9/230 6-5/200	Fullerton, Cal.
3. G	Steve Strong	6-0/170	Kennedy-King, III.
4. F	Lamar Sanders	6-6/225	Northwest, Miss.
5. F	Demarshay Johnson	6-9/215	Diablo Valley, Calif.
6. F	Chad McKenzie	6-7/225	L.A. City, Calif.
7. F	David Fisher	6-6/225	Arkansas-Fort Smith
8. G	Jerel Allen	6-3/185	Mott, Mich.
9. C	Alassane Savadogo	6-9/245	Gulf Coast, Fla.
10. G	Melvin Hall David Lawrence	6-0/180	John A. Logan, III.
12. G	David Lawrence Chris Ames	6-6/185 6-3/195	Daytona Beach, Fla. Southeastern, III.
13. C	Aliou Kane	6-10/245	Collin Co., Texas
14. G	Dani Hazut	6-3/190	Southern Idaho
15. G	Eddie Smith	6-1/185	Moberly, Mo.
16. F	Fernando Malaman	6-9/210	Western, Ariz.
	Mario Taybron	6-2/190	Eastern State, Okla.
	PANELS NO. 100		
47. G 48. F 49. F	Clint Burris Chris Wehye	6-6/245 6-6/190	Olney, III. Cecil, Md.

Date	Tournament (site)	Teams (*Denotes host team)
November 11-12, 18-19	Coaches vs. Cancer Classic (opening rounds: campus sites, championship rounds: New York)	Alabama A&M, Belmont, Birmingham-Southern, Bucknell, California, Fairfield, George Mason, IPFW, Memphis, Mississippi St., Northern Colorado, Princeton, St. Mary's, Savannah St., Syracuse, UC Riverside
November 12-14	NABC Classic (Albuquerque, N.M.)	Duquesne, New Mexico*, North Carolina A&T, Santa Clara
November 14-16	BCA Classic (Milwaukee)	Air Force, Jacksonville St., Illinois St., Marquette*, Mississippi, Penn St., South Carolina St., Western Carolina
November 15-16, 22-23	Guardians Classic (opening rounds: campus sites; championship rounds: Kansas City, Mo.)	Alcorn St., Brown, Creighton, Houston, Iona, Missouri, Morgan St., Northern Arizona, Ohio St., Robert Morris, Sam Houston St., Towson St.
November 15-17, 24-26	Preseason NIT (opening rounds: campus sites; championship rounds: New York)	American, Arizona, Binghamton, College of Charleston, Colorado, George Washington, Michigan, Niagara, Pennsylvania, Providence, Quinnipiac, San Diego, Tulsa, Virginia Commonwealth, Wake Forest, Wright St.
November 17-19	BCA Invitational (Raleigh, N.C.)	East Carolina, Elon, Fairleigh Dickinson, New Orleans, N.C. State*, Oregon St., Pepperdine, Siena
November 18-21	Top of the World Classic (Fairbanks, Alaska)	Alaska-Fairbanks*, Central Florida, Georgia Southern, New Mexico St., Northwestern, Portland, Utah St., Western Michigan
November 19-21	Boise Invitational (Boise, Idaho)	Boise State*, Fort Lewis College, Henderson St., Idaho, SE Louisiana
November 19-20	Central Connecticut St. Tournament (New Britain, Conn.)	CS Fullerton, Central Connecticut St.*, Colgate, Samford
November 19-20	Columbia Classic (New York)	Columbia*, Longwood, Mount St. Mary's, Morehead St.
November 19-24, 26-28	Corpus Christi Challenge (Norfolk, Va.; Corpus Christi, Texas; Fort Worth, Texas)	Florida St., Shawnee St., Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, TCU, Old Dominion, Tennessee S
November 19-21	LSU Tournament (Baton Rouge, La.)	Louisiana-Lafayette, LSU*, Louisiana Tech, Tulane
November 19-20	Marist Classic (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.)	Birmingham-Southern, Cornell, Marist*, Northeastern
November 19-20	Marquette Blue & Gold Classic (Milwaukee)	Binghamton, Kent St., Marquette*, Sam Houston St.
November 19-22	Paradise Jam (St. Thomas, Virgin Islands)	Arkansas, Austin Peay, Eastern Michigan, Saint Louis, Troy St., Winthrop
November 19-20	William & Mary Classic (Williamsburg, Va.)	Hartford, Radford, William & Mary*, Yale
November 20-21	Jim Thorpe Classic (Reno, Nevada)	Colorado-Colorado Springs, Georgia St., Nevada*, Southern Mississippi
Nov. 21-27, Dec. 16-18, 30-31	Las Vegas Holiday Classic (opening rounds: campus sites; championship rounds: Las Vegas)	Cincinnati, Delaware St., Illinois, Jackson St., Northern Iowa, Northwestern St., Southern Illinois, UTEP, Valparaiso, Vanderbilt
November 22-24	Mayi Invitational (Maui, Hawaii)	BYU, Chaminade*, Iowa, Louisville, North Carolina, Stanford, Tennessee, Texas
November 24-27	Great Alaska Shootout (Anchorage, Alaska)	Alabama, Alaska-Anchorage*, Furman, High Point, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Utah, Washington
November 26-27	Cyclone Classic (Ames, Iowa)	Bucknell, Iowa St.*, Northern Colorado, Stephen F. Austin
December 3-4	Hawkeye Challenge (lowa City, lowa)	Centenary, Iowa*, UNC Greensboro, Southern Mississippi
December 3-4	McCaffrey Classic (Fresno, Calif.)	Fresno St.*, Mississippi Valley St., South Florida, TBA
December 3-4	Southwest Missouri St. Classic (Springfield, Mo.)	Arkansas-Little Rock, Southeastern Louisiana, Southwest Missouri St.*, Youngstown
December 4-5	BB&T Classic (Washington, D.C.)	George Mason, George Washington, Maryland, Michigan St.

Data	T. Carlotte	Tooms (tDanatas hast toom)
Date	Tournament (site)	Teams (*Denotes host team)
December 10-11	San Francisco Tournament	UC Davis, Longwood, Saint Joseph's, San Francisco*
December 17-18	Dodge Holiday Classic (Reno, Nevada)	Eastern Illinois, Florida Atlantic, Idaho St., Nevada*
December 18-23	San Juan Shootout (San Juan, Puerto Rico)	American Univ.* (Puerto Rico), Delaware, Middle Tennessee, Purdue
December 20-23	Rainbow Classic (Honolulu)	UAB, Clemson, Georgetown, Hawaii*, Indiana St., Long Beach St., Oral Roberts, US
December 21-22	Billy Minardi Classic (Louisville, Ky.)	Austin Peay, IUPUI, Louisville*, New Orleans
December 21-23	Golden Bear Classic (Berkeley, Calif.)	Arkansas St., California*, Hampton, Pepperdine
December 27-28	Florida International Holiday Tournament (Miami)	Binghamton, Colgate, Florida International*, Ohio
December 27-28	Sun Bowl Tournament (El Paso, Texas)	Alabama St., Princeton, UTEP*, Tulane
December 28-30	Fiesta Bowl Classic (Tucson, Ariz.)	Arizona*, Butler, Eastern Washington, Long Island, Richmond, Valparaiso
December 28-29	Cable Car Classic (Santa Clara, Calif.)	Central Connecticut St., Charlotte, Santa Clara*, Yale
December 28-29	Central Florida Golden Knights Classic	Brown, Central Florida*, Fordham, Charleston Southern
December 28-30	ECAC Holiday Festival (New York)	Canisius, Columbia, N.C. State, St. John's
December 28-29	Flint Hills Invitational (Corpus Christi, Texas)	Alcorn St., Northern Illinois, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi*, St. Bonaventure
December 28-29	Lobo Invitational (Albuquerque, N.M.)	Pepperdine, Mississippi Valley St., New Mexico*, Troy St.
December 28-29	St. Mary's Tournament (Oakland, Calif.)	UC Davis, Murray St., Radford, St. Mary's*
December 29-30	Chattanooga Tournament (Chattanooga, Tenn.)	Birmingham-Southern, Chattanooga*, North Texas, Tennessee-Martin
December 29-30	North Charleston Shootout (Charleston, S.C.)	College of Charleston*, Harvard, Saint Peter's, Tennessee Tech
December 29-30	Utah St. Holiday Classic (Logan, Utah)	Loyola Marymount, Northern Arizona, South Carolina St., Utah St.*
December 29-30	Wisconsin-Green Bay Classic (Green Bay, Wis.)	Hartford, North Dakota St., Rider, Wisconsin-Green Bay*
December 30	Sugar Bowl Tournament	Florida St., LSU, Mississippi St., Virginia Tech
February 19	Bracket Buster	Akron, Austin Peay, Ball St., Bowling Green, Bradley, Buffalo, Butler, CS Northridge, Central Michigan, Cleveland St., College of Charleston, Creighton, Detroit, Drake, Drexel, East Tennessee St., Eastern Michigan, Evansville, Fairfield, George Mason, Georgia Southern, Hawaii, Illinois St., Illinois-Chicago, Kent St., Louisiana Tech, Loyola (Ill.), Manhattan, Miami (Ohio), Niagara, Northern Arizona, Northern Illinois, Northern Iowa, Ohio, Pacific, Portland St., San Jose St., Southern Illinois, SMU, Southwest Missouri St., Toledo, Tulsa, Virginia Commonwealth, Weber St., Western Michigan, Wichita St., Wisconsin-Green Bay, Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Wright St., Youngstown St.

Conference tournament schedule

League	Dates	Site
America East	March 4-12	Vestal, N.Y.**
Atlantic Coast	March 10-13	Washington
Atlantic Sun	March 3-4	Nashville, Tenn.
Atlantic 10	March 9-12	Cincinnati
Big East	March 9-12	New York
Big Sky	March 5-9	TBA****
Big South	March 1-5	TBA*
Big Ten	March 10-13	Chicago
Big 12	March 10-14	Kansas City
Big West	March 9-12	Anaheim
Colonial	March 4-7	Richmond, Va.

League	Dates	Site
Conference USA	March 9-12	Memphis, Tenn.
Horizon	March 1-8	TBA***
Metro Atlantic	March 4-7	Buffalo, N.Y.
Mid-American	March 8-13	Cleveland*
Mid-Continent	March 5-8	Tulsa, Okla.
Mid-Eastern	March 7-12	Richmond, Va.
Missouri Valley	March 4-7	St. Louis
Mountain West	March 9-12	Denver
Northeast	March 3-9	TBA****
Ohio Valley	March 1-5	Nashville*
Pacific-10	March 10-12	Los Angeles

League	Dates	Site
Patriot	March 4-13	TBA
Southeastern	March 10-13	Atlanta
Southern	March 3-6	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Southland	March 7-11	TBA*
Southwestern	March 8-13	Birmingham, Ala.
Sun Belt	March 5-8	Denton, Texas
West Coast	March 4-7	Santa Clara, Calif.
Western Atlantic	March 8-12	Reno, Nev.
***First round at cam	pus sites; champio seeds are hosts of	eeds will host first-round game nship game at highest remain quarterfinals, regular-season ther seeds are hosts.

2004 NCAR Tournament (Regional seeds in parenthesis)

CHAMPIONSHIP

Connecticut 82, Georgia Tech 73

NATIONAL SEMIFINALS

Georgia Tech 67, Oklahoma State 65 Connecticut 79, Duke 78

ST. LOUIS REGION

Georgia Tech 79, Kansas 71

Semifinals

Kansas 100, UAB 74 Georgia Tech 72, Nevada 67

Second round

UAB 76, Kentucky 75 Kansas 78, Pacific 63 Georgia Tech 57, Boston College 54 Nevada 91, Gonzaga 72

First round

(1) Kentucky 96, (16) Florida A&M 76 (9) UAB 102, (8) Washington 100 (12) Pacific 66, (5) Providence 58 (4) Kansas 77, (13) Illinois-Chicago 53 (6) Boston College 58, (11) Utah 51 (3) Georgia Tech 65, (14) Northern Iowa 60 (10) Nevada 72, (7) Michigan State 66 (2) Gonzaga 76, (15) Valparaiso 49

EAST RUTHERFORD REGION

Oklahoma State 64, Saint Joseph's 62

Semifinals

Saint Joseph's 84, Wake Forest 80 Oklahoma State 63, Pittsburgh 51

Second round

Saint Joseph's 70, Texas Tech 65 Wake Forest 84, Manhattan 80 Pittsburgh 59, Wisconsin 55 Oklahoma State 70, Memphis 53

(1) Saint Joseph's 82, (16) Liberty 63 (8) Texas Tech 76, (9) Charlotte 73 (12) Manhattan 75, (5) Florida 60 (4) Wake Forest 79, (13) Virginia Commonwealth 78

(6) Wisconsin 76, (11) Richmond 64 (3) Pittsburgh 53, (14) Central Florida 44

(7) Memphis 59, (10) South Carolina 43 (2) Oklahoma State 75, (15) Eastern Washington 56

ATLANTA REGION

Final

Duke 66, Xavier 63

Semifinals

Duke 72, Illinois 62 Xavier 79, Texas 71

Second round

Duke 90, Seton Hall 62 Illinois 92, Cincinnati 68 Texas 78, North Carolina 75 Xavier 89, Mississippi State 74

First round

(1) Duke 96, (16) Alabama State 61 (8) Seton Hall 80, (9) Arizona 76

(5) Illinois 72, (12) Murray State 53

(4) Cincinnati 80, (13) East Tennessee St. 77

(6) North Carolina 63, (11) Air Force 52

(3) Texas 66, (14) Princeton 49

(7) Xavier 80, (10) Louisville 70

(2) Mississippi State 85, (15) Monmouth 52

PHOENIX REGION

Final

Connecticut 87, Alabama 71

Semifinals

Alabama 80, Syracuse 71 Connecticut 73, Vanderbilt 53

Second round

Alabama 70, Stanford 67 Syracuse 72, Maryland 70 Vanderbilt 75, N.C. State 73 Connecticut 72, DePaul 55

First round

(1) Stanford 71, (16) Texas-San Antonio 45

(8) Alabama 65, (9) Southern Illinois 64

(5) Syracuse 80, (12) BYU 75

(4) Maryland 86, (13) UTEP 83

(6) Vanderbilt 71, (11) Western Michigan 58

(3) N.C. State 61, (14) Louisiana-Lafayette 52

(7) DePaul 76, (10) Dayton 69, 2 OT (2) Connecticut 70, (15) Vermont 53

Opening round

Florida A&M 72, Lehigh 57

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Opening round: Dayton, Ohio First/second rounds: Dayton, Ohio; Dallas; Auburn Hills,

Mich.; Greensboro, N.C.; Jacksonville; Philadelphia; Salt Lake City; San Diego

Regionals: Washington, D.C.; Atlanta; Minneapolis; Oakland Final Four: Indianapolis

2007

Opening round: Dayton, Ohio

First/second rounds: Buffalo; Chicago, Columbus; Lexington, Ky.; New Orleans; Sacramento; Spokane, Wash.; Winston-Salem, N.C.

> Regionals: East Rutherford, N.J.; San Antonio; San Jose; St. Louis

Final Four: Atlanta

2008

Opening round: Dayton, Ohio

First/second rounds: Anaheim; Birmingham; Denver; Little Rock, Ark.; Omaha, Neb.; Raleigh, N.C.; Tampa; Washington, D.C. Regionals: Charlotte; Detroit; Houston; Phoenix

Final Four: San Antonio

2009

Final Four: Detroit

2010

Final Four: Indianapolis

2011

Final Four: Houston

2005 NCAA Tournament sites

SELECTION SUNDAY Sunday, March 13

OPENING ROUND

Tuesday, March 15 Dayton, Ohio

FIRST AND SECOND ROUNDS

March 17 and 19

(Thursday/Saturday)

CSU Convocation Center, Cleveland RCA Dome, Indianapolis Boise State University Pavilion, Boise, Idaho McKale Center, Tucson, Ariz.

March 18 and 20 (Friday/Sunday)

Charlotte Coliseum, Charlotte Centrum Centre, Worcester, Mass. Gaylord Entertainment Center, Nashville Ford Center, Oklahoma City

REGIONAL SESSIONS

March 24 and 26

(Thursday/Saturday)

Allstate Arena, Chicago University Arena, Albuquerque, N.M.

> March 25 and 27 (Friday/Sunday) Carrier Dome, Syracuse, N.Y.

Frank Erwin Center, Austin, Texas

FINAL FOUR April 2 and 4

(Saturday/Monday) Edward Jones Dome, St. Louis

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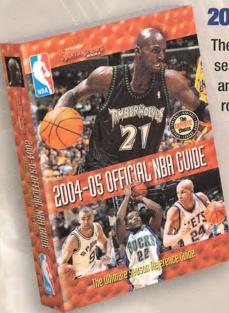
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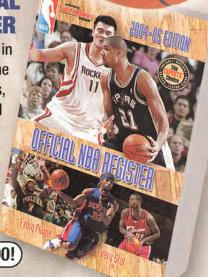
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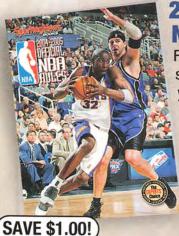








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